

Tennessee Department of Agriculture

Sunset Public Hearing Questions for

**Tennessee Forestry Commission**

Created by Section 11-4-201, *Tennessee Code Annotated*

(Sunset termination June 2012)

**Sunset Audit**

**1. Provide a brief introduction to the Tennessee Forestry Commission, including information about its purpose, statutory duties, staff and administrative attachment.**

*According to the Tennessee Code Annotated 11-4-201, the forestry commission is made up of seven members who are citizens of the state of Tennessee, appointed by the governor and confirmed by joint resolution of the general assembly. Membership consists of (2) owners of not more than 500 acres of forest land within the state, (1) owner of 500 or more acres of forest land within the state, (1) member representing the pulp and paper industry operating in the state (1) representing the hardwood products industry operating in the state, (1) representing a statewide conservation organization, and (1) member representing the public at large. (e) The commission elects a chair, vice chair, and secretary from its membership. The commission shall meet at least four times a year. The first meeting shall be within sixty days after the appointment and confirmation of members.*

*According to TCA 11-4-201(g)(1) the commission is to “place first and foremost the welfare of the state’s forest resources in the commission’s planning and decisions, and to encourage multiple development and use of the state’s forest resources to the benefit of all the citizens of Tennessee, including but not limited to the creation of a comprehensive long-range forest resource plan to integrate the division’s efforts and to implement and encourage full utilization of Tennessee’s forests and other related resources with sound conservation principles.” (g)(2) states that the commission has authority to formulate and recommend state forestry policies to the governor. 11-4-201 (h) states the commission shall have and exercise the power, duty and responsibility to formulate and recommend to the governor state forestry programs which shall include fire protection, production and distribution of high quality forest tree seedlings, promotion of reforestation, forest management assistance to landowners, educational programs, distribution of the state’s timber and forest resource information, management of state forests, management of trees in urban areas, forest products utilization, promotion of the development and expansion of markets for forest products, cooperative agreements with the federal government, and protect of forest soil and water quality and quantity.*

*11-4-201 (i) charges the commission to (1) submit to the governor the names of three qualified individuals for the position of state forester when a vacancy exists in that position. TCA 11-4-301(a), to (2) approve the annual budget (budget improvement request) of the division of forestry, to (3) make an annual report to the governor, the commissioner of agriculture, the house committee on conservation and environment, and the senate committee on environment,*

conservation and tourism or their successor committees concerning their activities and accomplishments, to (4) recommend to protect, conserve and develop resources of the state to the general assembly legislation, to (5) approve the division's comprehensive long-range plan for the state's forest resources, to (6) establish state forestry policies which allow the division to manage and maintain programs, and to(7) include budget recommendations.

Funding for commission expenses is provided from the Department of Agriculture, Division of Forestry's budge per the travel regulation guidelines by the Department of Finance and Administration. Expenses include reimbursement for travel, meals, and lodging. Members are not reimbursed for their services. Staff includes secretaries and staff members as needed from the division of forestry.

**2. Provide a list of current commission members and describe how membership complies with Section 11-4-201, Tennessee Code Annotated. Who appoints members? Are there any vacancies on the commission? If so, what steps have been taken to fill the vacancies?**

*Members of the Forestry Commission are:*

<u>Member</u>	<u>T.C.A.Section 11-4-201 Compliance</u>
<i>Mr. Bill Williams, Chair</i>	<i>Hardwood manufacturers</i>
<i>Mr. John Ross, V. Chair</i>	<i>Owners of greater than 500 acres</i>
<i>Mr. Paul Trianosky, Secretary</i>	<i>Owners of less than 500 acres</i>
<i>Mr. James W. Reeves</i>	<i>Public at Large</i>
<i>Mr. Jack Holder</i>	<i>Pulp and paper manufacturers</i>
<i>Mr. Bob Qualman</i>	<i>Owners of less than 500 acres</i>
<i>Ms. Dorothy Mann</i>	<i>Conservation Organizations</i>
<i>Julius Johnson, Commissioner</i>	<i>Ex-Officio Member</i>
<i>Director Ed Carter</i>	<i>Ex-Officio Member</i>
<i>Robert Martineau, Commissioner</i>	<i>Ex-Officio Member</i>

*Each member is appointed by the governor and confirmed by joint resolution of the general assembly.*

*Currently, there are no vacancies on the commission.*

*T.C.A. states that the commission should at least meet four times annually. The commission generally meets during the months of August, October, January, and April.*

**3. Does membership include a member who is sixty years of age or older? A member who is a racial minority? A member who is female?**

*Membership includes a member who is sixty years of age or older.*

*Membership does not include a member who is a racial minority. A racial minority served on the commission from July 1, 1998 until June 30, 2004.*

*Membership includes a female.*

**4. What per diem or travel reimbursement do members receive? How much was paid to commission members during fiscal years 2010 and 2011?**

*Commission members receive standard state travel reimbursement as outlined in travel regulations.*

*In 2010 commission members were paid a total of \$6,660.73 for travel reimbursement.*

*In 2011 commission members were paid a total of \$5,410.26 for travel reimbursement.*

**5. What were the commission's revenues (by source) and expenditures (by object) for fiscal years 2010 and 2011?**

*The commission had no revenues for 2010 and 2011.*

*Expenditures for 2010*

<b><i>Object</i></b>	<b><i>Expenditures</i></b>
<i>Travel</i>	<i>6,660.73</i>
<i>Food</i>	<i>106.50</i>
<b><i>Total</i></b>	<b><i>\$6,767.23</i></b>

*Expenditures for 2011*

<b><i>Object</i></b>	<b><i>Expenditures</i></b>
<i>Travel</i>	<i>\$5,410.26</i>
<i>Supplies</i>	<i>93.20</i>
<b><i>Total</i></b>	<b><i>\$5,503.46</i></b>

**6. How many times did the commission meet in fiscal years 2010 and 2011, and how many members were present at each meeting?**

*The commission met seven times in Fiscal years 2010 and 2011:*

*Year 2010*

*August 11, 2009*

*January 12, 2010*

*April 13, 2010*

*Attendance*

*Six members attended (quorum)*

*Five members attended (quorum)*

*Seven members attended (quorum)*

*Year 2011*

*August 10, 2010*

*November 19, 2010*

*Attendance*

*Four members attended (quorum)*

*Six members attended (quorum)*

March 2, 2011  
June 15, 2011

Five members attended (quorum)  
Six members attended (quorum)

- 7. Is the commission subject to Sunshine law requirements (Section 8-44-101 et seq., *Tennessee Code Annotated*) for public notice of meetings, prompt and full recording of minutes and public access to minutes? If so, what procedures does the commission have for informing the public of its meetings, who keeps the official minutes of commission meetings and what steps are taken to make the minutes available to the public?**

*The commission is subject to sunset law requirements. The Department of Agriculture sends sunshine notices to newspapers across the state. The administrative assistant for the state forester takes meeting minutes, which are then approved by a motion, seconded, and then approved by the full commission. Copies of the meeting minutes are on file in the Division of Forestry office, Bruer building, Ellington Agricultural Center, Nashville and open for public viewing during regular business hours.*

- 8. What were the major accomplishments of the commission during fiscal years 2010 and 2011?**

- The commission supported the Division of Forestry and other partner agencies and organizations in their efforts on the State Forest Resource Assessment and Strategy Plan. The commission attended statewide public meetings on the State Forest Resource Assessment and Strategy Plan. The commission reviewed and approved the Tennessee Forest Resource Assessment and Strategy as the Division of Forestry long range plan for the State's forest resources. The commission discussed and received comments on the implementation of the Tennessee Forest Resource Assessment and Strategy.
- The commission discussed and received comments on hunting regulations and deer platforms and the danger of using cotton harvesting spindles as tree stand steps. An article was published in the TWRA Tennessee 2010 Hunting & Trapping Guide.
- The commission received comments on tree planting practices and general tree care as performed by state agencies and agency contractors on state property. The commission recommended training to be offered by the Division of Forestry to other state agencies on tree planting and tree care as applied on state properties.
- Reviewed and approved the Division of Forestry's annual activities report for 2008 and 2009.
- Presented the Forestry Commission's 2008 and 2009 Annual Reports to the House Conservation and Environment Committee and Senate Environment, Conservation and Tourism Committee.
- Reviewed and approved the Division of Forestry's operating and improvement budgets and seedling price schedules for fiscal years 2010 and 2011.

- 9. Section 11-4-201(i)(1), *Tennessee Code Annotated*, requires the commission to make recommendations to the Governor for appointment to the job of state forester? When was the**



**last time such a recommendation was required? Who is currently serving in the position of state forester?**

*The last time a recommendation was made to the Governor was in March 2002. Mr. Steven G. Scott is currently serving in the position of State Forester. He was appointed and began serving as State Forester on July 1, 2002.*

**10. Section 11-4-201(i)(2), *Tennessee Code Annotated*, sets out the budget process as it involves the state forester, the commission and the commissioner. During recent budget cycles, has the commission needed to go directly to F&A or the legislative finance committees as authorized in the statute to deal with disagreements between the commissioner and the commission?**

*No, the Forestry Commission and Commissioner of Agriculture have been in agreement.*

**11. Has the forestry commission approved or helped develop the forestry division's "comprehensive long-range plan for the state's forest resources" as authorized by Section 11-4-201(i)(5), *Tennessee Code Annotated*? If so, when was the plan last revised and what role did the commission play in any revisions? Please attach a copy of the plan.**

- *The 2008 Farm Bill amended the Cooperative Forestry Assistance Act of 1978 directed States to develop a long-term Statewide Assessment and Strategy for Forest Resources. Assessments were to characterize each state's forest resource, identify threats to that resource, and develop strategies to mitigate those threats. Tennessee's assessment was completed in June, 2010. The Forestry Commission served on the assessment steering committee, providing guidance and leadership throughout the assessment process. The Commission, through letter included with the assessment, approved this assessment as the "comprehensive long-range plan for the state's forest resources" as authorized by Section 11-4-201(i)(5), *Tennessee Code Annotated*.*

**12. Does the commission transmit an annual report to the Governor, Commissioner of Agriculture, and designated committees within the legislature as required by Section 11-4-201(i)(3), *Tennessee Code Annotated*? If so, please attach copies of the last two annual reports released. What other reports, if any, does the commission prepare on its operations, activities and accomplishments and who receives the reports? Please attach copies.**

*Yes. The commission submits an annual report to the House Conservation and Environment Committee and the Senate Environment, Conservation and Tourism Committee and the Governor. Copies of the 2009 and 2010 reports are attached.*

**13. Section 11-4-201(i)(6), *Tennessee Code Annotated*, provides that the commission will establish state forestry policies. What policies have been developed by the commission and where are they published? Please provide copies of policies published during fiscal years 2010 and 2011.**

- *The commission has not developed any state forestry policies. The commission is briefed frequently on the programs and policies of the Division of Forestry. The commission provides valuable guidance on forestry programs and services provided by the Division of Forestry.*
- *The commission approves the division's seedling sales policies annually in April, including pricing and policies on seedling donations. These approvals are recorded in the meeting minutes.*
- *The commission is briefed from time to time on the division's annual work plan and performance measures.*

**14. What recommendations concerning state forestry programs have been made by the commission during the last two years, pursuant to the commission's powers, duties and responsibilities as stated in Section 11-4-201(h), *Tennessee Code Annotated*, and how do those recommendations and programs conform to the statement of legislative intent stated in Section 11-4-201(g)?**

*The Commission annually reviews and approves the division of forestry's operating budget; annually reviews and approves the Division of Forestry's seedling production amounts and prices; and annually presents the Division of Forestry's annual report to the House Conservation and Environment Committee and the Senate Environment, Conservation and Tourism Committee. Specific actions taken by the Commission during state fiscal years 2010 and 2011 include:*

- Requested and received clarification on personal property taxation issues as applicable to logging equipment from the Executive Secretary of the State Board of Equalization.
- Agreed to prepare a bi-annual report on the status of implementation of the strategies contained in the Tennessee Forest Action Plan.
- Reviewed and approved the Tennessee Forest Action Plan as being the Division of Forestry's long range plan for the State's forest resources.
- Received comments from the Southern Appalachian Back Country Horsemen on the need for more horseback riding trails.
- Recommended training be offered by the Division of Forestry to other state agencies on tree planting and tree care as applied on state properties.
- Facilitated an article in TWRA's hunting guide discussing the dangers of using cotton harvesting spindles as steps for tree stands used in hunting.
- Discussed the need for a broader scope of forest certification standards to be accepted by green building certification systems.

- Discussed and received comments on damage to forest lands caused by off road vehicle use.

*The commission frequently provides recommendations and guidance on the division's eight core businesses: forest resource protection, forest resource management, urban forest resource management, reforestation, state forest management, forest businesses, forest data and technology, and environmental affairs and public outreach.*

**15. Does the commission have any policies in place to address potential conflicts of interest by commission members, commission employees, or other state employees who work with the commission in any capacity.**

*The commission has no unique policies on conflicts of interest, however, commissioner members and employees of the department are required to comply with all state laws and executive orders regarding conflicts of interest*

**16. Describe any items related to the commission that require legislative attention and your proposed legislative changes.**

The Administration is considering a proposal to add an ex-officio member to the commission.

**17. Should the commission be continued? To what extent and in what ways would the absence of the commission endanger the public health, safety or welfare?**

*Yes. The commission provides valuable leadership, guidance and advice on public programs and policies for the Division of Forestry. The State Forester and state headquarters staff greatly appreciate the advice and wisdom of the members of the Forestry Commission in carrying out the policies and programs affecting forestry in Tennessee.*

**18. Please list all commission programs or activities that receive federal financial assistance and, therefore are required to comply with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. Include the amount of federal funding received by program/activity.**

*None.*

[Federal financial assistance includes:

- (1) Grants and loans of Federal funds,
- (2) The grant or donation of Federal Property and interests in property,
- (3) The detail of Federal personnel,
- (4) The sale and lease of, and the permission to use (on other than a casual or transient basis), Federal property or any interest in such property without consideration or at a nominal consideration, or at a consideration which is reduced for the purpose of assisting the recipient, or in recognition of the public interest to be served by such sale or lease to the recipient, and

(5) Any federal agreement, arrangement, or other contract which has as one of its purposes the provision of assistance.

28 C.F.R. Sec. 42.102(c)]

[The term recipient means any State, political subdivision of any State, or instrumentality of any State or political subdivision, any public or private agency, institution, or organization, or other entity, or any individual, in any State, to whom Federal financial assistance is extended, directly or through another recipient, for any program, including any successor, assign, or transferee thereof, but such term does not include any ultimate beneficiary under any such program.

28 C.F.R. Sec. 42.102(f)]

*If the commission does receive federal assistance, please answer questions 19 through 26. If the commission does not receive federal assistance, proceed directly to question 25.*

19. Does your commission prepare a Title VI plan? If yes, please provide a copy of the most recent plan.
20. Does your commission have a Title VI coordinator? If yes, please provide the Title VI coordinator's name and phone number and a brief description of his/her duties. If not, provide the name and phone number of the person responsible for dealing with Title VI issues.
21. To which state or federal agency (if any) does your commission report concerning Title VI? Please describe the information your commission submits to the state or federal government and/or provide a copy of the most recent report submitted.
22. Describe your commission's actions to ensure that commission staff and clients/program participants understand the requirements of Title VI.
23. Describe your commission's actions to ensure it is meeting Title VI requirements. Specifically, describe any commission monitoring or tracking activities related to Title VI, and how frequently these activities occur.
24. Please describe the commission's procedures for handling Title VI complaints. Has your commission received any Title VI-related complaints during the past two years? If yes, please describe each complaint, how each complaint was investigated, and how each complaint was resolved (or, if not yet resolved, the complaint's current status).
25. Please provide a breakdown of current commission staff by title, ethnicity, and gender.

Bill Williams	Chair	White	Male
John Ross	Vice – Chair	White	Male
Paul Trianosky	Secretary	White	Male
Jack Holder	Member	White	Male

Dorothy Mann	Member	White	Female
Bob Qualman	Member	White	Male
James W. Reeves	Member	White	Male

**26. Please list all commission contracts, detailing each contractor, the services provided, the amount of the contract, and the ethnicity of the contractor/business owner.**

*None.*



## Division of Forestry Establishes State Forest Inventory

The State Forest Continuous Forest Inventory (CFI) began in 2007 and is the first system-wide continuous forest inventory to be established on Tennessee's State Forests. Individual forest inventories have been performed periodically over the years, but this new inventory aims to standardize the methodology employed across the whole state forest system. Over 720 plots have been established and measured with summaries of 10 of the 15 forests completed through 2009 (see Standing Stone State Forest example below). A very large portion of the division's personnel have been involved in this project one way or another.

The objective of the CFI is to obtain information to quantify the status of the State Forests and to quantify the growth of the forests over time. Information derived from the inventory will be useful

to guide forest management decisions and to develop and achieve forest management objectives. Some of the inventory data summary outputs are: trees per acre, tree volume per acre, mean annual increment, basal area, and age distribution. Through this data, the annual allowable harvest can be derived as well as other management statistics needs.

Repeated measurements will allow forest growth and mortality to be monitored. This information coupled with predictive models will enable modeling of forest management alternatives, and demonstrate quantitatively and graphically to the public, division personnel, state management and legislators how the forest will grow over time or respond to management decisions. Long-term, these data will greatly improve our hardwood growth and yield predictive models.

### Standing Stone State Forest Inventory Summary

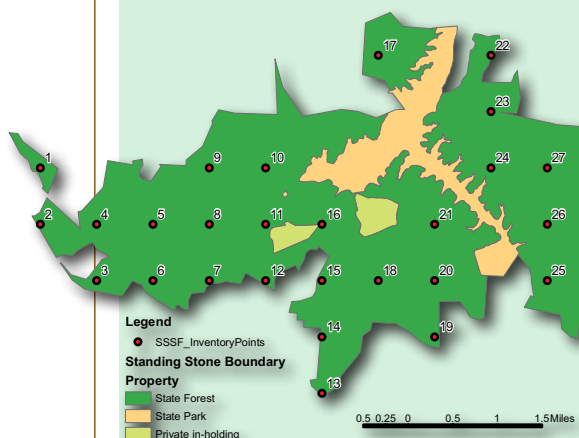
So, what have we learned from the state forest inventory? We'll use Standing Stone as an example and describe the forest using the inventory results.

Standing Stone State Forest is 8,341 acres in total. There are 214 acres of non-forested land and about 75 acres in streamside management zones (SMZ). This leaves 8,052 acres manageable for a timber objective.

Based on data collected from the 33 continuous forest inventory plots, the average acre contains 12,458 board feet (International 1/4 inch log rule) of timber and 127 merchantable trees per acre. Sugar maple (19), red maple (16), yellow poplar (12), hickory species (11) and chestnut oak (8) are the predominant trees per acre.

However, the dominant species based on board foot volume per acre are yellow poplar (2,491), chestnut oak (2,259), hickory species (1,284), and white

*continued on page 20...*



Inventory sample plot layout for Standing Stone State Forest



Forest Protection



Forest Resource Management



Urban Forestry



State Forest Management



Reforestation



Forest Data & Technology



Forest Business



Environmental Affairs & Public Outreach

## ***Tennessee Forestry Commission***

### ***Members***

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***Bill Williams, Chair***

Newport, TN

Represents hardwood manufacturers

***John Ross, Vice-Chair***

Savannah, TN

Represents owners of greater than 500 acres

***Paul Trianosky, Secretary***

Mountain City, TN

Represents owners of less than 500 acres

***Jack Holder***

Counce, TN

Represents pulp and paper manufacturers

***Ronnie James***

Hohenwald, TN

Represents owners of less than 500 acres

***Dottie Mann***

Clarksville, TN

Represents conservation organizations

***James W. Reeves***

Stanton, TN

Represents Public at Large

***Ken Givens, Ex-Officio***

Commissioner - Tennessee Department of Agriculture

***Ed Carter, Ex-Officio***

Director - Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency

***Jim Fyke, Ex-Officio***

Commissioner - Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation

**Tennessee Forestry Commission Actions and Activities for 2009**

The Tennessee Forestry Commission met four times during the 2009 fiscal year. The Commission received reports from citizens, staff, and subject matter experts on various forestry topics and issues affecting forest landowners and citizens of Tennessee during the year. The Commission discussed and took action on the following matters:

- Reviewed and approved the Division of Forestry operating and improvement budgets for FY2010
- Reviewed and approved the Division of Forestry forest seedling price schedule for 2009-10
- Reviewed and approved the Division of Forestry annual activities report for 2008
- Presented the Forestry Commission's 2008 Annual Report to the House Conservation and Environment Committee and the Senate Environment, Conservation and Tourism Committee
- Accepted a report from State Forester Steve Scott on the Division of Forestry District Reorganization Plan
- Affirmed support for new legislation for Forester Licensure/Credential/Registration in Tennessee and developed a position statement stating such support
- Received draft guidelines on carbon sequestration and carbon trading activities as it relates to State of Tennessee agency involvement
- Received and held extended discussions on timber theft and timber trespass issues.
- Accepted final survey report on timber theft and timber trespass conducted by the Division of Forestry and the University of Tennessee
- Supported Division of Forestry and other partner agencies and organizations in their efforts on the State Forest Resource Assessment and Strategy Plan
- Attended State Forest Resource Assessment public meetings held across the State
- Received comment on an Arborist Certification Proposal by the Tennessee Urban Forestry Council
- Discussed Forest Management Certification Programs and the need for more certified acreage in Tennessee





# Forest Resource Protection

## Wildland Fire Protection

*Mission: Minimize damage caused by wildfire to forest resources and personal property while giving priority to firefighter safety.*

The Division protects forest resources from destructive fire so that the intrinsic benefits of the state's forests can be realized. It does this by preventing and suppressing wildfires, promoting hazard reduction activities, and supporting wildland fire training for volunteer fire departments and other wildland firefighters. The highest priority of this program is firefighter and public safety.

### Objectives for Year

- Increase Fire Prevention integration
- Implement National Fire Danger Rating System (NFDRS)
- Integrate Southern Wildfire Risk Assessment (SWRA)

### Major accomplishments for July 1, 2008 – June 30, 2009

- Contracted with Tennessee Radio Network to broadcast fire prevention Public Service Announcements across the state with emphasis on obtaining a burn permit and awareness of weather conditions
- Activated 2 fire prevention teams in east Tennessee
- Held 2 fire prevention planning workshops with Assistant District Foresters
- Deployed 70 out-of-state resource assignments: 12 federal fire details; 58 compact fire assignments, 7 to North Carolina and 51 to Texas (see picture - left)
- Completed Hazard Mitigation Projects in two communities
- Suppressed 1,648 forest fires that burned 18,568 acres (see pictures - middle, right)
- Issued 379,711 burn permits across the state
- Conducted 3 Firewise - Fire Prevention Teacher workshops in mid-state
- Conducted 9 Firewise Community Leader workshops across the state
- Recognized the Tennessee Resource Conservation & Development Council for fire prevention partnership accomplishments
- Implemented the updated National Fire Danger Rating System to establish Preparedness Levels indices in each District
- Completed Federal Excess Personal Property review by Region 8 USDA Forest Service staff
- Served on regional steering committee for SWRA; reviewed application of assessment product to the needs of the Division

## Unit Mission

*The mission of the Forest Resource Protection Unit is to reduce losses from wildfires and forest pests, and to prevent water quality degradation from forestry sources. The Forest Resource Protection Unit administers the Division's Wildland Fire Protection, Forest Health, and Water Quality programs.*



TN Forestry personnel participating in After Action Review on compact in Texas, July 2008



National Park Service helicopter assists on TDF fire at Bluff Mtn., Sevier Co., March 2009



Wildfire threatens cabins on Bluff Mtn., Sevier Co., March 2009





# Forest Resource Protection

## Forest Health

*Mission: Minimize forest resource losses caused by forest pests through effective prevention, detection, evaluation, suppression, and technical assistance measures.*

The Division is endeavoring to meet the constant challenges in the forest health arena. The difficulty of managing forest pests has been made more complicated by the ever-increasing number of native and non-native pests encroaching on Tennessee's forests. Coordination with other agencies and interest groups is becoming a critical part of the Division's response.

### Objectives for Year

- Detect, monitor, and manage forest pests
- Implement the gypsy moth Cooperative Agricultural Pest Survey and Delimiting Work Plans for 2009
- Implement the Hemlock Woolly Adelgid Strategic and Management Plan
- Increase field support of forest health program

### Major accomplishments for July 1, 2008 – June 30, 2009

- Initiated the Early Detection and Rapid Response (EDRR) program for exotic bark beetles in Tennessee in cooperation with the USDA Forest Service and APHIS-PPQ. Seven sites across the state were selected for monitoring, which began in May and will continue through September 2009.
- Conducted southern pine beetle (SPB) trapping in Chester, Marion, Rhea, and Wayne Counties where pine is a major component of several forest types. Surveys indicated low and stable SPB populations for this summer. Surveys for the entire southeast region of the country generally indicated the same for all the southern states.
- Communicated insect and disease information and challenges in 6 presentations and meetings across the state with approximately 275 students, landowners, resource management professionals, and other stakeholder groups attending.
- Coordinated watershed sampling (stream baiting) of ten watersheds in East and Middle Tennessee for the pathogen that causes sudden oak death (SOD) with the University of Tennessee. This ongoing survey has thus far indicated no positive samples for SOD within the ten watersheds.
- Participated in the 2009 emerald ash borer (EAB) national survey with traps set in 9 public and privately owned campgrounds in Middle Tennessee. This ongoing survey has thus far indicated no presence of EAB in these areas.
- Conducted gypsy moth egg mass survey in Bradley County near the McDonald community. One egg mass was found (see inlay). This location will be delimited during trapping season this summer. Eradication plans will be made this fall once the extent of the infestation is determined.
- Currently managing the 2009 gypsy moth detection and delimiting survey programs involving over 12,000 traps in 95 counties.
- Completed hemlock woolly adelgid (HWA) surveys in East Tennessee. There were no new counties discovered to have HWA within the state during the winter/spring 2009. Twenty-seven (27) counties are known to have HWA.
- Provided funding along with the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation and the Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency in hiring additional personnel at the University of Tennessee beneficial insects laboratory to increase production of biological control agents to reduce HWA populations on state lands.

### Gypsy Moth Egg Mass Detection



A gypsy moth egg mass was discovered during a survey on January 8, 2009 near the McDonald community in Bradley County. The egg mass was found (and subsequently destroyed) under the deck of a house belonging to an individual who frequents an area of Wisconsin where the gypsy moth is established. Finding two or more life stages of the gypsy moth (egg, larvae, pupae, and/or adult) within an area documents an infestation. Mitigation actions are being planned.



# Forest Resource Protection

## Water Quality

*Mission: Protect waters of Tennessee from degradation attributable to forestry practices.*

The Division of Forestry works to ensure that forestry practices are performed in a manner that does not result in the degradation of the State's water resources. The Water Quality program involves prevention, education, training, monitoring, response to complaints, and assistance to Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation (TDEC) Division of Water Pollution Control (WPC) with complaint resolution.

### Objectives for Year

- Complete Best Management Practices (BMP) implementation survey
- Increase courtesy checks and logger contacts
- Provide Master Logger and CEU education with emphasis on stream crossings

### Major accomplishments for July 1, 2008 – June 30, 2009

- Published results of the BMP implementation survey which describes improvements in the use of BMPs
- Conducted 778 on-site visits with landowners and loggers, providing technical assistance concerning application of BMP (675 were courtesy checks)
- Prepared 1,241 written BMP recommendations for forest landowners in forest management plans and timber sale assistance
- Investigated 18 complaints arising from forestry operations in cooperation with the TDEC WPC
- Investigated and made recommendations on 91 complaints from other sources
- Assisted with 8 Notices of Violation and 1 Director's Order issued by TDEC WPC
- Presented 4 BMP sessions in cooperation with the Tennessee Forestry Association (TFA) for the Tennessee Master Logger program, training 66 loggers (see picture)
- Conducted 24 forestry water quality and BMP familiarization and training workshops for 417 resource managers, forest landowners, and loggers
- Provided Master Logger scholarship funding through the Tennessee Agricultural Enhancement Program, in partnership with the TFA, to train 474 loggers in BMP's.



Water Quality Forester, Bob Baker, explains BMPs to loggers in a Master Logger workshop in Oliver Springs.



# Forest Resource Management

## Forest Landowner Assistance

*Mission: Encourage and assist landowners to implement forest management practices that yield healthy, productive forests.*

The landowner assistance program provides technical assistance, forest planning assistance, cost-share assistance, forest health assessments and forestry information to private, non-industrial forest landowners. The Division assists landowners in achieving forest resource conservation and forest management objectives on their land.

### Objectives for Year

- Provide land use planners with resource management information
- Develop multi-resource plan writer for Stewardship and Tree Farm plans and distribute to field personnel
- Incorporate TDEC Threatened & Endangered species database into forest management planning
- Develop spatial database of all Stewardship tracts

### Major accomplishments for July 1, 2008 – June 30, 2009

- Provided 1,892 on the ground assists to landowners (1,250 were first time assists)
  - ◇ Forest Management Planning
    - » Wrote 171 Forest Stewardship plans addressing 27,610 acres; of these plans 68 were developed for the Environmental Quality Incentives Program - Forest Habitat Fund (EQIP-FHF)
    - » Recognized implementation of 14 Forest Stewardship plans addressing 2,460 acres
    - » Wrote 1,060 other forest management plans addressing 72,176 acres
  - ◇ Forest Stand Prescription Planning
    - » Wrote 332 prescription plans addressing 13,705 acres
    - » Prescriptions included 133 Tennessee Agricultural Enhancement Program (TAEP) plans to help landowners with forest stand establishment or improvement
    - » Prescriptions included 20 TAEP plans to provide loggers stream crossing and wet area crossing structures
  - ◇ Forest Stand Prescriptions Implemented
    - » Assisted 93 landowners in planting 1,878 acres of hardwoods; includes 30 TAEP participants representing 832 acres
    - » Assisted 140 landowners in planting 5,892 acres of pine; includes 68 TAEP participants representing 3,011 acres
    - » Assisted 11 loggers in securing stream crossing and wet area crossing structures through TAEP
- Developed Plan Writer database (see figure) containing contact information on 1,574 landowners who have received Stewardship Plans; recorded 445 tracts in the geographic information system (GIS) from parcel maps, aerial photos and geographic positioning system (GPS) data
- Partnered with the University of Tennessee to provide training in scientific management of wildlife food plots for Division field personnel

## Unit Mission

*The mission of the Forest Resource Management Unit is to promote and advance sustainable forest management on non-industrial private forestlands for the multiple uses and benefits provided by forested landscapes. The Forest Resource Management Unit administers the Division's Landowner Assistance and Forest Legacy programs.*



Screen shot of Forest Stewardship Plan Writer; the Plan Writer provides a systematic approach to writing management plans for landowners in a consistent, centralized system.





# Forest Resource Management

## Forest Legacy

*Mission: Protect environmentally important, private forestlands threatened with conversion to non-forest uses.*

The Forest Legacy Program identifies and protects environmentally important private forestlands that are threatened by conversion to non-forest uses. Program emphasis is to maintain well-managed, working forests on the landscape. Since initial involvement in 2000, fee simple and permanent conservation easement purchases now total 40,810 acres valued at \$41.5 million. Tennessee utilized \$21.1 million of federal Forest Legacy grant money in reaching that total.

### Objectives for Year

- Close active projects
- Revise assessment of needs
- Finish baseline documentation on conservation easements
- Promote/document Forest Legacy program and projects
- Identify tracts that meet State Forest objectives

### Major accomplishments for July 1, 2008 – June 30, 2009

- Purchased 1 forestland conservation easement totaling 1,892 acres valued at \$1.8 million (see pictures)
- Secured funding for fee simple purchase of additional 3,168 acres valued at \$4.2 million for federal fiscal year 2010



A Big Forks Field Day and Celebration was held in honor of completion of the conservation easement by the family who owns the land. Project partners included the Division, USDA Forest Service, TN Heritage Conservation Fund, The Nature Conservancy, The Lyndhurst Foundation, and the North Chickamauga Creek Conservancy.



# Urban Forest Resource Management

Urban forestry emphasizes the important role trees play in communities: from the many intangible benefits to the economic benefits of air pollution abatement, heat island mitigation, and storm water runoff reduction. To attain these benefits, the urban forestry program strives to provide assistance to Tennessee's cities and towns, where the majority of the population lives. Urban Forestry impacts people where they live.

## Objectives for Year

- Improve the Department of Agriculture's Tennessee Agricultural Enhancement Program (TAEP) cost-share for community tree planting by implementing an inspection/follow up site visit
- Provide urban and community forestry assistance to cities and towns across Tennessee and to green industries (arborists, grounds managers, landscape architects, others) that impact the management of the urban forest resources
- Administer grants, Tree City, Tree Line, Arbor Day poster contest, Champion Tree and related program and project administration
- Complete a canopy cover analysis for Tennessee communities
- Implement Interface Index as a natural resource planning tool

## Major accomplishments for July 1, 2008 – June 30, 2009

- Completed 4 canopy cover assessments of small communities in Tennessee
- Completed the FY 2009 Tennessee Agriculture Enhancement Program (TAEP) community tree planting grants - a total of 28 projects planted 2,360 trees across the state (see inlay)
- Administered grants for TAEP community tree planting for FY 2008 and the Urban and Community Forestry grants for FY 2007, 2008, and 2009
- Completed a forth panel of urban Forest Inventory and Analysis plots
- Completed canopy and development evaluation of Forest Inventory and Analysis hexes that contain urban FIA plots. Average percentages for 259 hexes were: canopy, 33%; development, 47%
- Initiated implementation of Edison for TAEP and U&CF grant administration
- Made 124 assists to 66 cities and towns; assists included providing information to tree boards, ordinance reviews, tree city information, planting recommendations, etc.
- Partnered with the Tennessee Urban Forestry Council to conduct a joint conference with the State's Landscape Architects
- Provided 102 assists to utilities, grounds managers, arborists, and related entities
- Made 37 presentations to various groups about trees and urban forestry
- Provided assistance to the Tennessee Urban Forestry Council as needed
- Certified 1 new Tree Line USA, and re-certified 10 Tree Line USA's (Tennessee is second in the country in recognized Tree Line USA's)
- Recognized 40 cities and towns as Tree City USA
- Completed the State-wide Arbor Day Poster contest – 69 teachers and 1,230 students participated
- Tested and modified the Forest Interface Index evaluation system

## Unit Mission

***The mission of the Urban Forest Resource Management Unit is to assist and encourage municipalities and private urban landowners to establish, improve, and maintain urban forest resources.***

## TAEP In Action

The Department of Agriculture's Tennessee Agricultural Enhancement Program provided cost-share for 28 community tree planting projects resulting in 2,360 trees planted across the state.



"The TAEP grant enabled us to plant trees in our parks for future shade and canopy that we otherwise would not have been able to do." Terry Shupp, Knox Co. Parks and Greenways Coordinator.



## State Forest Management

The Tennessee Department of Agriculture, Division of Forestry manages 15 state forests totaling 167,302 acres based upon multiple-use and sustainable forest principals. The forests are quite varied, ranging from mountain coves to cedar glades to bottomlands along the Mississippi river.

### Objectives for Year

- Complete state forest inventory/analysis
- Complete scheduled compartment plans
- Complete contracting for third party certification assessment
- Utilize state forests for demonstration of forest practices
- Complete web based catalog of state forest demonstrations

### Major accomplishments for July 1, 2008 – June 30, 2009

- Completed data collection for 384 state forest inventory plots. To date, 627 of 721 (87%) Continuous Forest Inventory (CFI) plots have been completed.
- Completed CFI statistical summaries for 10 State Forests
- Harvested 7.7 million board feet of timber on 620 acres that generated \$1,780,305.96. Storm damage and southern pine beetle salvage sites at Natchez Trace and Chickasaw State Forests were also harvested.
- Completed surveying of 6.7 miles of right-of-way easement
- Continued evaluation of two major requests for easement and/or change of jurisdiction at Bledsoe State Forest and Prentice Cooper State Forest
- Completed White-Nose Syndrome in bats position statement and coordinated with other state and federal agencies to close public caves in Tennessee for one year
- Submitted 9 compartment plans for approval
- Completed requests for proposal and contracting for third-party state forest certification assessment
- Hosted 3 Tennessee Healthy Hardwood (THH) Field Days at Chickasaw, Natchez Trace and Standing Stone State Forests and co-hosted 1 THH Field Day at UT Forest Resources Center in Oak Ridge along with UT Extension (see pictures)
- Developed and implemented an online state forest timber sales notification web site
- Completed a catalog of state forest demonstrations formatted for the internet. The catalog is awaiting posting on the Forestry web site.



Tennessee Healthy Hardwoods attracted 280 landowners to four field days held across the state. The Division hosts these events in cooperation with UT Extension in an effort to inform and educate landowners on the multiple benefits of sustainable forest management.

### Unit Mission

***The mission of the State Forest Management Unit is to provide for the multiple use management of all resources on State Forest lands such that those resources are protected and utilized in the combination that best meets the long-term needs of the people of Tennessee.***





# Reforestation

## Seedling Nursery

*Mission: To provide high quality conifer and hardwood seedlings to the state's landowners at a competitive price.*

The Division of Forestry's seedling nursery, located in Delano, TN, produces forest seedlings that are available for sale to landowners in Tennessee. These seedlings are adapted to growing conditions found in Tennessee and are used primarily for reforestation and forest conservation projects. Approximately one-half of the 80 acres available for seedling production at the nursery are used for this purpose each year. The remaining seedbed area is planted in cover crops each year to ensure the long-term productivity of the nursery soil.

### Objectives for Year

- Increase seedling sales and accompanying sales revenue
- Complete construction of greenhouse at the East Tennessee Nursery and develop protocol for growing Eastern Hemlock and progeny test seedlings
- Complete and refine new web-based nursery management/seedling sales software
- Repair seedling cold storage building at Westel, TN and get it back into operation
- Begin project to construct new seedling cold storage building at Chickasaw SF

### Major accomplishments for July 1, 2008 – June 30, 2009

- Signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency to produce 202,000 hardwood seedlings for their use at various locations in the state
- Produced 4.78 million pine seedlings and 1.13 million hardwood seedlings for sale and distribution during the 2008-2009 field planting season
- Continued to refine and develop the new web-based seedling sales computer program
- Built a free standing roof over the seedling cooler and loading dock facility in Westel, TN. Replaced damaged cooler panels and resumed using the cooler again as a seedling delivery and distribution location for east Tennessee.
- Selected a site near the fire tower complex at Chickasaw State Forest as the location to build a new seedling cooler and distribution center for west Tennessee. Specifications and rough drawings were prepared and a conceptual proposal for the project was presented to the State Building Commission.
- Renovated the nursery's walnut hulling machine to improve efficiency and increase the safety of the operation

## Unit Mission

*The mission of the Reforestation Unit is to provide quality, affordable seedlings (genetically improved where feasible) to Tennessee landowners and to optimize genetic improvements to increase the productivity of the state's forest resource.*



The East Tennessee Nursery produces over 5 million tree seedlings annually for reforestation and conservation needs. Tours of the nursery are given upon request and help to inform and educate on the multiple benefits trees provide to society.



# Reforestation

## Tree Improvement

*Mission: To genetically improve the forest plantations of Tennessee through a program of breeding, testing, selection, and orchard management for important tree species; and to provide the state nursery with genetically improved seed from these orchards.*

The Division manages over 200 acres of seed orchards and more than 214 acres of progeny tests at various locations around the state. Currently, the Division is actively working with 7 hardwood and 4 conifer tree species. Tennessee is also a member of the North Carolina State University – Cooperative Tree Improvement Program. Membership allows accelerated breeding and establishment of genetically superior seed orchards. Seed produced from these orchards is used to grow seedlings tailored for survival and fast growth on Tennessee's landscape.

### Objectives for Year

- Purchase land to serve as primary location for future west Tennessee seed orchards and genetic tests
- Develop master plan for new Pinson replacement property
- Facilitate in-house production of 2nd generation loblolly pine seed
- Develop succession plan for critical tree improvement positions
- Graft all scion material needed for various orchards around the state. Top priority will be on grafting needed for installation of new orchards on newly purchased west Tennessee property.

### Major accomplishments for July 1, 2008 – June 30, 2009

- Purchased a 394 acre tract of land in Chester Co. that will serve as the future site of west Tennessee seed orchards and genetic tests (see inlay)
- Developed initial plan for development of the new West Tennessee Tree Improvement Center, and had Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) contract transferred to the Division of Forestry
- Worked cooperatively with Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation State Parks and Division of Archaeology personnel to completely harvest the three 1.0 generation loblolly pine orchards and thin the 1.5 generation loblolly pine orchard at the Pinson Reforestation Complex
- Harvested cones from the white pine seed orchards at the East Tennessee Nursery and Pickett State Forest
- Harvested improved black walnut seed from seed orchards at the East Tennessee Nursery and the Pinson Reforestation Complex
- Planted all trees scheduled for establishment in the 3rd cycle loblolly pine orchard at the Pinson Reforestation Complex
- Produced containerized seedlings to establish a shortleaf pine seed orchard at the new West Tennessee Tree Improvement Center
- Grafted all loblolly, shortleaf and white pine scion material needed to produce trees for various seed orchards
- Fertilized all seed orchards in need of fertilization based on recommendations from NCSU
- Renovated equipment used for the net retrieval seed collection system and collected improved yellow-poplar seed from the orchards at the East Tennessee Nursery and Ames Plantation

### New Land for Seed Orchards and Genetic Testing

The Chester County property shown in the photograph was acquired by the Division of Forestry in January, 2009 and will serve as the primary site for future west Tennessee seed orchards and genetic tests. The seed orchards will produce tree seed that will be planted at the Division's East Tennessee Nursery to produce seedlings for use by



Tennessee landowners. Genetic testing of various tree species native to Tennessee will enhance the value of the state's forest land by enabling the Division of Forestry to produce seedlings with above average growth rate, climate adaptation, and insect and disease resistance.





## Forest Data and Technology

The Forest Data and Technology Unit is charged with the task of seeking out and implementing relevant technology. The Unit is also responsible for maintaining relevant databases and presenting data in a format for further analysis. Critical work areas include updating information systems and getting new mapping and remote sensing technology into the hands of field personnel. Adopting such technology will lead to better communications, increased efficiency, and strengthened credibility.

### Objectives for Year

- Distribute Geographic Information System (GIS) software and data out to field (see inlay)
- Train field personnel on use of GIS
- Initiate radio system integration
- Develop web-based online burn permit system
- Develop water quality online database
- Improve connectivity as opportunity presents itself

### Major accomplishments for July 1, 2008 – June 30, 2009

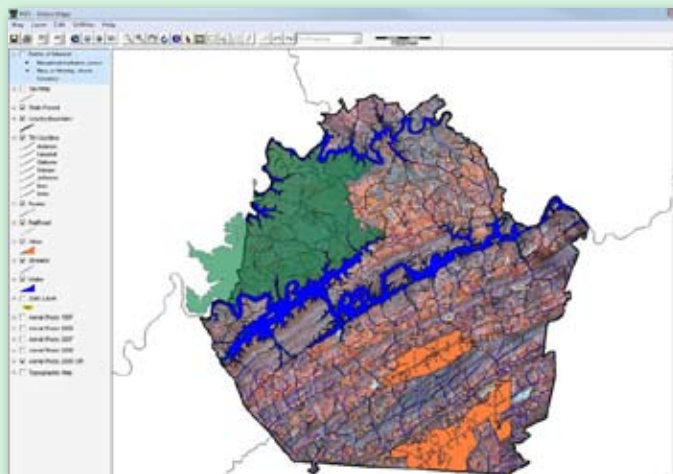
- Developed a way to distribute fGIS program and data on one self installation DVD
- Developed computer automated reporting structure from the online Fire Report Database
- Supported Radio Section on purchasing, tracking and programming new radios and equipment
- Activated 3 DSL and 3 Wireless Card internet access
- Updated personnel database with new Edison IDs
- Updated fGIS with 2008 Summer Aerial Photos
- Implemented web-based database for the East Tennessee Nursery for tracking shipments and inventory

### Unit Mission

*The mission of the Forest Data and Technology Unit is to facilitate the development and utilization of technology to meet the needs of the Division's core businesses. The Forest Data and Technology Unit has the responsibility to implement state of the art technology, manage and compile data, and administer the Division's Forest Inventory and Analysis, and Geographic Information Systems programs.*

### Improving Efficiency Through the Use of Technology

Geographic Information System software, coupled with up-to-date data, provides a powerful management tool for Division personnel working to more efficiently and effectively serve the forest land owning public of the state. A GIS can incorporate multiple layers of information such as soil and forest type, water resources, topography, road and utility services, and political boundaries for analysis and graphical display.





# Forest Data and Technology

## Geographic Information Systems

Mission: Analyze and present tabular information in visual (map) form or extract data from imagery and present it in tabular form that assists in making resource decisions.

The Geographic Information Systems (GIS) section supports program managers decision making by analyzing data and presenting it in map or tabular form.

### Objectives for Year

- Support Division projects - Gypsy Moth, Hemlock Woolly Adelgid, Sudden Oak Death, Forest Legacy, Statewide Forest Resource Assessment, Water Quality
- Identify eastern hemlock stands from aerial imagery

### Major accomplishments for July 1, 2008 – June 30, 2009

#### Gypsy Moth

- Managed the property inventory of global positioning system (GPS) units issued annually to the seasonal and full-time employees, and laptop computers issued annually to the lead trappers used in gypsy moth trapping
- Downloaded GPS waypoint (trap placement) data from 14 full-time employees
- Provided support to lead trappers for assigned GPS units, laptop computers and associated software used in gypsy moth trapping
- Received and processed 168 GPS data downloads from full-time employees and seasonal employees
- Collected, imported, converted, inspected, modified, corrected, organized and archived more than 12,200 trap data records from field employees in order to produce maps
- Produced large scale (statewide) gypsy moth trap placement maps
- Produced large scale (statewide and district) gypsy moth catch location maps
- Produced small scale maps of gypsy moth proposed and final eradication and control projects
- Produced maps illustrating the current statewide status of gypsy moth occurrences and infestations over the past year
- Produced maps illustrating the spread of gypsy moth regionally over the past year

#### Hemlock Woolly Adelgid

- Produced pest occurrence maps from field survey data
- Conducted initial analysis towards determining the feasibility of identifying eastern hemlock using color and color-infrared aerial imagery using Campbell and Monroe Counties as areas of interest

#### Sudden Oak Death

- Produced pest occurrence maps from field survey data

#### Forest Legacy

- Produced map of closed Forest Legacy projects
- Produced maps for boundary survey bid requests
- Completed unification of proposed, active and closed projects into a single, coherent structure

#### State Assessment Project

- Produced HUC-6 lever watershed maps for each district for use in their work

#### Water Quality

- Produced quarterly maps of water quality courtesy visits



## Forest Data and Technology

### Forest Inventory Analysis

*Mission: Characterize changes in Tennessee's forest resource through data collection and analysis*

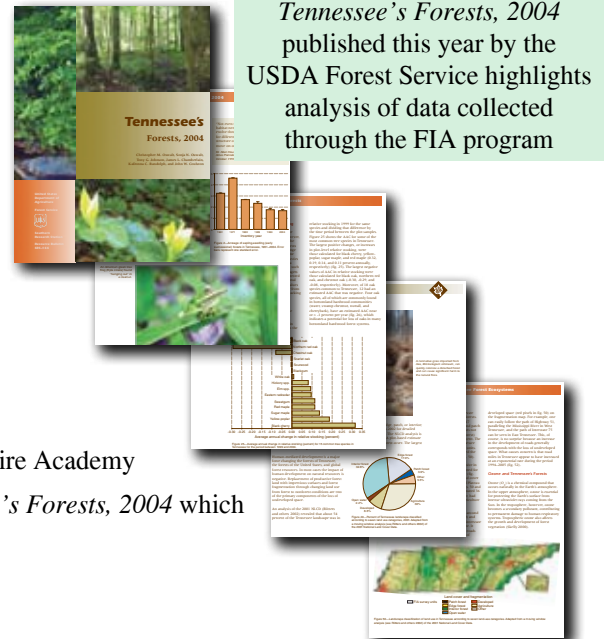
The Division works with the USDA Forest Service to produce periodic reports of the condition and extent of Tennessee's forest. Some 4,600 plots statewide are accurately measured at regular intervals to provide the data needed, with 20% of the plots scheduled for measurement each year. Information from this data is used to qualify and quantify Tennessee's forest resource.

#### Objectives for Year

- Measure 924 plots
- Train and certify crews

#### Major accomplishments for July 1, 2008 – June 30, 2009

- Measured 950 Forest Inventory plots
- Measured 54 Forest Health Monitoring plots
- Measured 56 Urban Forest Health Monitoring plots
- Measured 40 Ozone Monitoring plots
- Trained 1 Forester for Re-Certification
- Trained 7 Foresters for new data acquisition system
- Trained 6 Foresters at the Tennessee-Kentucky Wildland Fire Academy
- Promoted, along with the USDA Forest Service, *Tennessee's Forests, 2004* which highlights analysis of FIA data from 2000-2004



*Tennessee's Forests, 2004* published this year by the USDA Forest Service highlights analysis of data collected through the FIA program

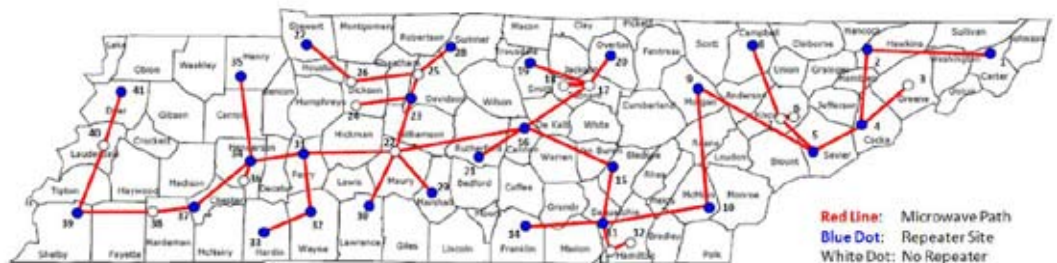
### Radio Communications

#### Objectives for Year

- Maintain Radio Communications infrastructure (microwave, comparators and repeaters) (see map)
- Install, program and support base stations, mobile and portable radios
- Train Division personnel on the use of new radio equipment

#### Major accomplishments for July 1, 2008 – June 30, 2009

- Combined former Districts 1 and 2 into one communication zone, also combined former Districts 3 & 4
- Developed utilization of Voice-Over-Internet-Protocol to combine and communicate through Division radios
- Identified and supplied four crews of three people for radio installs
- Installed 150+ mobile radios in trucks



Division Microwave Radio System



## Forest Business

The goal of the Forest Businesses Unit is to improve Tennessee's forest resources by facilitating linkages between sellers and buyers and promoting value-adding industry. The Division's Forest Businesses program provides descriptive data about, and for, the forest products industry in Tennessee, technical assistance to forest products businesses or forest landowners, assistance in recruiting or establishment of forest products businesses in the state, and analysis to aid understanding of the forest resource.

### Objectives for Year

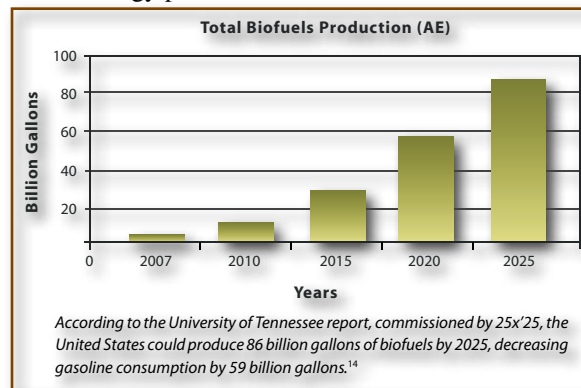
- Publish the Forest Products Bulletin (quarterly) and the Forest Industry Directory (annually)
- Provide export marketing help for hardwood lumber producers
- Assist Tennessee companies and citizens with forest products advice
- Participate in the Tennessee biofuels strategy

### Accomplishments for July 1, 2008 – June 30, 2009

- Reviewed and edited the data for the USDA Forest Service 2007 Timber Products Output report for Tennessee
- Published the Tennessee Forest Products Bulletin quarterly
- Advised Tennessee citizens with their forest products questions and needs for help with timber sales, logging, forest inventory and other inquiries
- Supplied biofuel data availability and inventory information for prospective companies (see chart)
- Developed planning for preliminary site locations for Clearfuels bioenergy plant
- Participated in the Southern Group of State Foresters Utilization and Marketing Task Force and Marketing Publication committee
- Recruited three Tennessee companies to participate in the Vietnamwood 2009 Trade show in September 2009
- Participated in Hardwood States Export Group to increase the Division's export assistance capability. Attended one of the groups hardwood lumber export trade shows.
- Past Trade Show Success: Another Tennessee forest products company has just opened an office in Shanghai, China
- Published an article on Tennessee forest products markets for Tennessee Forestry Association
- Gave presentations about forest products markets at the Tennessee Healthy Hardwood field days sponsored by the division and UT

### Unit Mission

*The mission of the Forest Business Unit is to provide support for the Tennessee forest industry and forest-based businesses, and to provide data to characterize Tennessee forest products.*



Future volumes necessary to achieve 25 percent domestic biofuel production by 2025.  
(source: 25x'25 Action Plan - Charting America's Energy Future)



## Environmental Affairs and Public Outreach

The Environmental Affairs and Public Outreach Unit seeks creative ways to provide outreach to the various publics in the State of Tennessee. Additionally, the unit seeks to foster greater collaboration with environmental advocacy groups to produce a climate for problem solving which will help reduce unnecessary conflict in various arenas with favorable outcomes for all.

### Objectives for Year

- Initiate/Develop strategy for work needed on emerging issues
- Disseminate key forestry messages to internal and external audiences

### Major accomplishments for July 1, 2008 – June 30, 2009

- Co-authored Carbon Sequestration regional position paper for the Southern Group of State Foresters
- Convened statewide summit on Carbon Sequestration voluntary markets
- Participated in the formulation of Tennessee Forestry Association position paper on Carbon Sequestration/Cap and Trade Policy
- Assisted in the planning of the annual statewide Summit on Environmental Sustainability held at David Lipscomb University in Nashville
- Co-authored a research paper on Forested Viewshed in the Wildland Urban Interface (in review – submitted for publication in Southern Journal of Applied Forestry)
- Produced *Visual Quality* video highlighting viewshed issues in the Wildland Urban Interface (see graphic)
- Conducted several workshops in partnership with Tennessee State University Extension for the Freehill Community in Clay Co., TN
- Initiated/conducted a Deed and Title Abstraction project for limited resource/underserved landowners in the Freehill Community in Clay Co., TN
- Taped environmental public access TV show highlighting division programs and unique attributes for a green world

### Unit Mission

*The mission of the Environmental Affairs & Public Outreach Unit is to communicate clearly and accurately to the Division's publics forestry information necessary to accomplish the Division's mission, and to optimize in-house communications. The Environmental Affairs & Public Outreach Unit also administers the Division's Information and Education program.*



The *Visual Quality* video was produced in-house through a USDA Forest Service grant to study the impact of visual quality on rural lands and to identify methods of viewshed conservation.





# Environmental Affairs and Public Outreach

## Information and Education

*Mission: To produce educational materials and provide forest resource information through a variety of media, and provide support to all Division programs in the dissemination of information to our publics.*

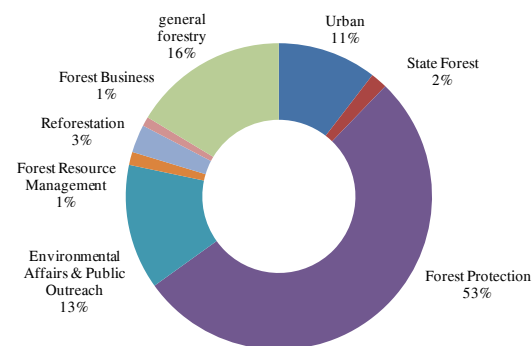
The information and education program is essential in helping the general public understand forestry as a discipline and the role that the Division plays in maintaining a healthy forest resource while providing a stream of essential ecological benefits to society. The program also helps to foster communication within the Division, a critical function of a healthy organization.

### Objectives for Year

- Raise awareness about important and timely forest resource issues
- Inform division personnel on statewide division activity and current forest resource issues
- Reorganize web site in line with core business model and state guidelines
- Promote Forestry Camp
- Increase technological capacity to produce informational products in-house to more effectively and efficiently raise awareness of Division activity and program diversity

### Major accomplishments for July 1, 2008 – June 30, 2009

- Held 1,482 educational outreach activities reaching over 201,768 children and adults
- Produced 11 news releases pertaining to relevant topics including: wildfire prevention, firewood, Christmas trees, Forester of the Year award, Carbon Markets, Big Forks Forest Legacy tract, Arbor Day, FIA publication, White-nosed Bat syndrome (via TWRA), urban forestry grant announcement
- Gave radio and television interviews addressing Division programs
- Referenced in 507 newspaper articles (see chart)
- Developed exhibit to promote Tennessee Agriculture Enhancement Program - Forestry
- Produced three newsletters for Division personnel
- Developed redesign model for the Division's web site in coordination with State web site restructuring guidelines
- Facilitated 60th annual Forest Camp for 49 Future Farmers of America high school students (see pictures)
- Built in-house media studio (photo, video, audio, and print production) including hardware and software necessary to produce informational products for print, broadcast, and web-based media
- Developed marketing strategy to better raise awareness of Division activity and program diversity on print informational products. The strategy seeks to more effectively establish a consistent, branded style necessary to maintain a recognizable public image.
- Maintained YouTube channel – [www.YouTube.com/TNDivForestry](http://www.YouTube.com/TNDivForestry) - showcasing Division stock video and playlists of other organization's or individual's conservation education oriented video for global internet audience



Percent newspaper articles referenced;  
compiled by relevant Unit



60th Annual Tennessee Forestry Camp



## Safety and Training

The Division stresses safety first in all activities and program areas by providing the tools and training necessary to enable employees to work effectively and safely. In addition, physical fitness standards help the Division maintain a physically capable and healthier work force.

### Objectives for Year

- Conduct work capacity test
- Coordinate ongoing training program
- Maintain training database
- Assess training needs for each job classification
- Maintain safety records
- Coordinate safety inspections of facilities
- Provide safety information (updates, messages)
- Investigate accidents/unsafe work practices
- Administer Title VI Program

### Major accomplishments for July 1, 2008 – June 30, 2009

- Administered the work capacity test to assess fitness among Division firefighters
- Conducted the Division's annual wildfire training academy for new employees
- Continued training on new dozers and transports for forest technicians and equipment operators
- Made materials available for the Division's annual wildfire safety refresher
- Assisted University of Tennessee Extension Service with Wildland Urban Interface (WUI) Professional Development Training Program
- Coordinated prescribed burning training for foresters and forest technicians
- Facilitated National Incident Management System (NIMS) Training
- Participated in the seventh annual Tennessee Kentucky Wildland Fire Academy, which offers advanced training for Division firefighters (see pictures)
- Trained firefighters in the use of fire operations in the wildland-urban interface
- Assisted with Insect and Disease Training for employees
- Conducted Citation (Badge) Training for employees
- Coordinated First Aid/CPR Training
- Coordinated Defensive Driving Training
- Coordinated Fire Prevention Education Teams in District 2 in October, 2008
- Administered the Division's Title VI Program
- Maintained the Division's Pesticide Certification Program/Records.
- Compiled and submitted OSHA reports
- Chaired Safety/Training Committee meetings

### Unit Mission

*The mission of the Safety and Training Program is to protect the lives and well-being of Division employees and the public by reducing or eliminating unsafe acts and/or conditions that may result in personal injury or loss of life and to coordinate training opportunities that will enhance employee career development and the delivery of forestry services to our constituents.*





## Administration

Spread across the State and administered from four district and one reforestation offices, the 325 employees of Department of Agriculture's Forestry Division have responsibilities in nine separate programs. Effective planning, priority setting, and communication within the Division are crucial to organizational effectiveness. Assistant State Foresters and the Budget & Planning Unit Leader work with Staff to refine systems that improve customer services and operational efficiencies.

### Objectives for Year

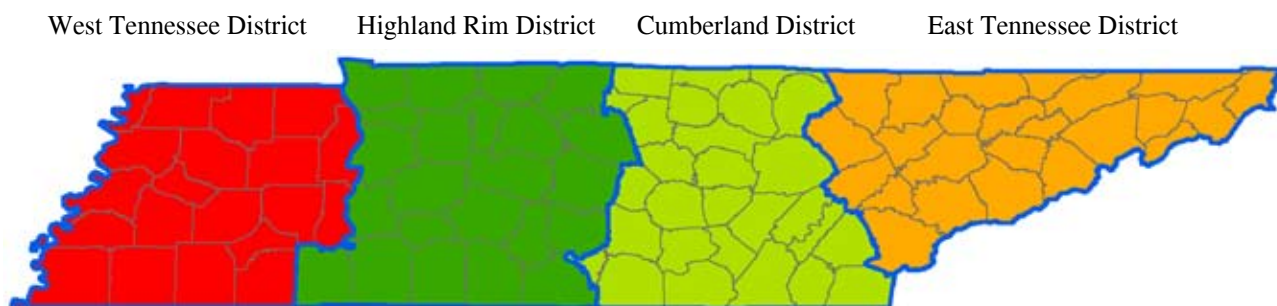
- Develop midterm strategic plan update
- Manage planning processes
- Monitor and manage spending processes
- Improve Division facilities
- Develop Tennessee forest resources plan

### Major accomplishments for July 1, 2008 – June 30, 2009

- Initiated the adaptation of the Edison computer system
- Completed the consolidation of six administrative districts into four (see map)
- Developed annual work plan
- Completed the process of purchasing property in Chester County for new Reforestation headquarters and seed orchards
- Completed the process of purchasing property in Bradley County for forestry work center



Project Edison was implemented Division-wide



Revised District boundaries following consolidation

### Unit Mission

*The mission of the Administration Unit is to assist the State Forester in increasing the effectiveness of management, the quality of customer services, the efficiency of operations, and the cost effectiveness of Division programs.*





...continued from page 1

oak (1,119). The average age of the forest is 58 years. The average basal area\* is 91 square feet; dominated by yellow poplar, chestnut oak, hickory species and sugar maple. The median tree contains 2.5 16-foot logs. The quadratic mean diameter\*\* is 11.5 inches. The average acre contains 41.6 tons of carbon; 35 tons above and 6.6 below ground. The mean annual increment is 45.1 cubic feet per year (32.5 cubic feet or 211 board feet of sawtimber and 12.6 cubic feet in pulpwood). The annual allowable harvest is calculated to be 363,145 cubic feet or approximately 139 acres per year.

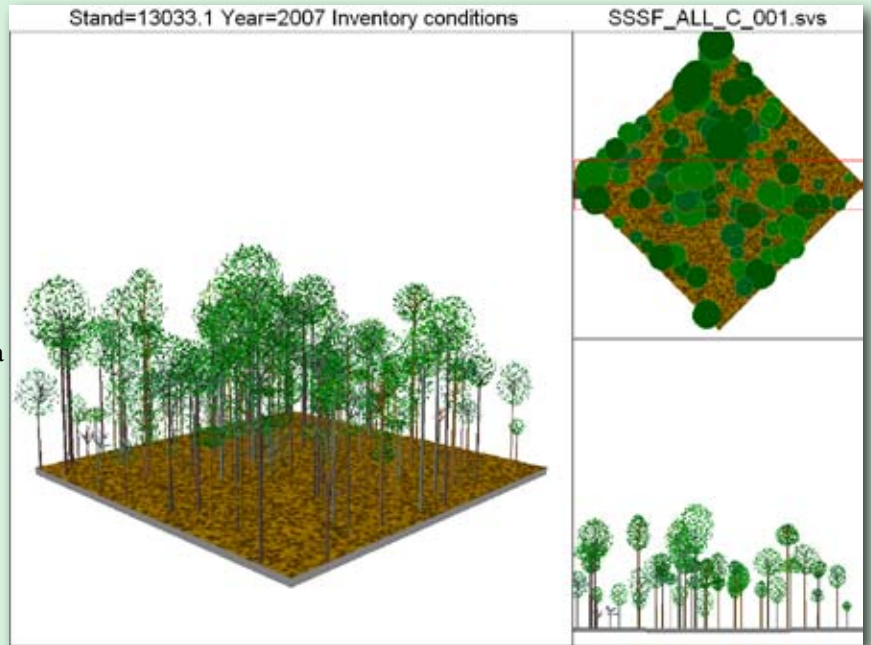
The understory contains mostly sugar maple (179), red maple (82), eastern redbud (58), ailanthus [invasive exotic] (55) and sassafras (39) trees per acre. New seedlings (regeneration) on the forest floor per acre are mostly sugar maple (818), red maple (545), ash species (455), elm species (455) and eastern redbud (364).

The typical acre is shown graphically in the figure to the right. The software used to generate the graphic utilizes the inventory data to show the current stand structure. It can also be used to “grow” the forest and implement treatments to see how the forest will be in the future.

Standing Stone is a relatively productive forest that is typically comprised of yellow poplar, oak and hickory species. Of concern is the amount of ailanthus and maple in the understory. This situation can inhibit oak regeneration. The oak species provide economic value and hard mast for wildlife. If left alone or undisturbed, the forest, through succession, would likely become a forest dominated by sugar maple, red maple and beech.

\*Basal area - the cross-section area (square feet) of all the trees on an acre measured at a height of 4.5 feet.

\*\*Quadratic mean diameter – diameter corresponding to the mean basal area



Graphical depiction of a typical forest acre using the Stand Visualization System software and inventory data

### Forestry Commission Duties and Functions

The Tennessee Forestry Commission was established by the legislature under T.C.A. 11-4-201 to:

1. Nominate candidates for State Forester.
2. Review, approve and submit the annual budget of the Forestry Division to the Commissioner of Agriculture.
3. Make an annual report to the Governor, Commissioner of the Department of Agriculture and the Senate Environment, Conservation and Tourism Committee and the House Conservation and Environment Committee.
4. Recommend to the General Assembly legislation to protect, conserve and develop the forest resources of the state.
5. Approve the Division's comprehensive long-range plan for the state's forest resources.
6. Establish state forestry policies that will enable the Division to manage its programs.
7. Include in budget recommendations those goals and objectives necessary to implement state forestry policies.

### The State of Tennessee policy of non-discrimination

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Tennessee Department of Agriculture, Auth. No. 325324, 300 copies, October 2009.

This public document was promulgated at a cost of \$2.56 per printed copy.



## TENNESSEE FOREST RESOURCE PRIORITIES IDENTIFIED

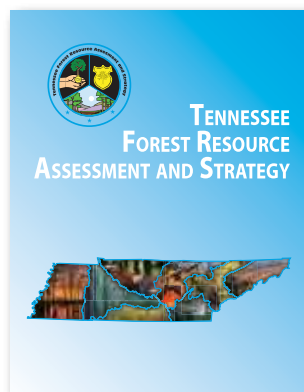
The Tennessee Department of Agriculture Division of Forestry (TDF), along with numerous forest resource stakeholders, completed the Tennessee Forest Resource Assessment and Strategy in conjunction with a national effort towards conserving, protecting and enhancing our forests.

“The benefit that forests provide for water resources is central to the theme of this assessment and strategy,” said Steve Scott, State Forester for Tennessee. “Forest landscapes can provide us with the quality and quantity of water we require.”

The assessment provides an analysis of forest conditions, trends and threats in Tennessee. Strategies provide long-term plans for addressing needs identified in the assessment. Top priority areas and issues identify where natural resource agencies, including TDF, partner organizations and federal programs will target strategy implementation. The assessment was required for forestry agencies across the nation by the federal 2008 Farm Bill.

One concern identified in the assessment is a trend related to urban sprawl and

forestland conversion to other uses. For example, between 1990 and 2000, Tennessee experienced an estimated 360,000 acre increase in urban area, resulting in the loss of 178,000 acres of forestland to urban use. At this rate, an additional 1.2 million acres of forestland could be urbanized by 2050.



“Healthy forests act as natural filtration systems to our water resources, and if we are to continue to provide natural solutions to conserving the quality of water delivered to our communities, we must start with ensuring our forests remain as forests,” said Scott.

The Tennessee Forest Resource Assessment and Strategy is a compilation of ideas grouped together from multiple agencies, partners, and forest resource stakeholders including landowners and the public. It marks the beginning of an ongoing process of resource management and planning that will help steer forest conservation decision making. The anticipated result will be healthier and more resilient landscapes, better and more fire-adapted communities, improved habitat, air and water quality.

### Water Quality Better Protected Through Targeted Forest Stewardship

*excerpt from the Tennessee Forest Resource Assessment and Strategy*

Tennessee’s forests are facing forest health issues that, if not addressed, could significantly change the benefits derived from our State’s forests. Protecting, maintaining, and enhancing a public use water supply is a basic need for all Tennessee citizens. As a result, forest

health threats and public water supply benefits have been emphasized in the development of the Forest Stewardship priority areas map.

The Forest Stewardship Priority Areas Map (shown on page 20) displays all watersheds containing combinations of forest types subject to insect or disease

*continued on page 20...*



Forest Resource Protection



Forest Resource Management



Urban Forest Resource Management



State Forest Management



Reforestation



Forest Data & Technology



Forest Businesses



Environmental Affairs & Public Outreach

## ***Tennessee Forestry Commission***

### ***Members***

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#### ***Bill Williams, Chair***

Newport, TN

Represents hardwood manufacturers

#### ***John Ross, Vice-Chair***

Savannah, TN

Represents owners of greater than 500 acres

#### ***Paul Trianosky, Secretary***

Mountain City, TN

Represents owners of less than 500 acres

#### ***Jack Holder***

Counce, TN

Represents pulp and paper manufacturers

#### ***Ronnie James***

Hohenwald, TN

Represents owners of less than 500 acres

#### ***Dottie Mann***

Clarksville, TN

Represents conservation organizations

#### ***James W. Reeves***

Stanton, TN

Represents Public at Large

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Commissioner - Tennessee Department of Agriculture

#### ***Ed Carter, Ex-Officio***

Director - Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency

#### ***Jim Fyke, Ex-Officio***

Commissioner - Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation

#### **Tennessee Forestry Commission Actions and Activities for 2010**

The Tennessee Forestry Commission met four times during the 2010 fiscal year. The Commission received reports from citizens, staff, and subject matter experts on various forestry topics and issues affecting forest landowners and citizens of Tennessee during the year. The Commission discussed and took action on the following matters:

- Reviewed and approved the Division of Forestry operating budget for FY2011.
- Reviewed and approved the Division of Forestry forest seedling price schedule for 2010-11.
- Visited and toured the Delano State Forest Tree Seedling Nursery in January 2010.
- Reviewed and approved the Division of Forestry annual activities report for 2009.
- Presented the Forestry Commission's 2009 Annual Report to the House Conservation and Environment Committee and the Senate Environment, Conservation and Tourism Committee.
- Supported Division of Forestry and other partner agencies and organizations in their efforts on the Tennessee Forest Resource Assessment and Strategy.
- Reviewed and approved the Tennessee Forest Resource Assessment and Strategy as being the Division of Forestry long range plan for the State's forest resources.
- Discussed and received comments on the implementation of the Tennessee Forest Resource Assessment and Strategy.
- Discussed the need for more inclusive LEED green building standards to include forest products certified or recognized under the American Tree Farm program or Forest Stewardship program in Tennessee.
- Discussed and received comments on hunting regulations and deer platforms and the danger of using cotton harvesting spindles as tree stand steps, article published in TWRA Tennessee 2010 Hunting & Trapping Guide.
- Discussed and received comments on damage to forest lands caused by off road vehicle use.
- Received comments on tree planting practices and general tree care as performed by state agencies and agency contractors on state property.
- Recommended training be offered by the Division of Forestry to other state agencies on tree planting and tree care as applied on state properties.
- Received comments from the Southern Appalachian Back Country Horsemen on the need for more horseback riding trails in Tennessee's state forests.





# Forest Resource Protection

## Wildland Fire Protection

*Mission: Minimize damage caused by wildfire to forest resources and personal property while giving priority to firefighter safety.*

The Division protects forest resources from destructive fire so that the intrinsic benefits of the state's forests can be realized. It does this by preventing and suppressing wildfires, promoting hazard reduction activities, and supporting wildland fire training for volunteer fire departments and other wildland firefighters. The highest priority of this program is firefighter and public safety.

### Objectives for Year

- Increase Fire Prevention integration.
- Integrate National Fire Danger Rating System (NFDRS) into District Fire Plans.
- Integrate Southern Wildfire Risk Assessment (SWRA).

### Major accomplishments for July 1, 2009 – June 30, 2010

- Contracted with Tennessee Radio Network to broadcast fire prevention Public Service Announcements across the state with emphasis on obtaining a burn permit and awareness of weather conditions.
- Held Annual fire prevention planning workshop with Assistant District Foresters.
- Conducted Fire Prevention Plan writing training to Technicians and Area Foresters in each District.
- Conducted Fire Prevention training for all county personnel in each District.
- Increased Fire Prevention outreach over 250% with 2,471 activities reaching nearly 240,000 people.
- Suppressed 902 forest fires that burned 12,961 acres.
- Issued 415,084 burn permits across the state.
- Conducted 2 Firewise - Fire Prevention Teacher workshops in mid-state.
- Conducted 4 Firewise Community Leader workshops across the state.
- Completed 1 Community Wildfire Protection Plan in east Tennessee.
- Continued integration of the National Fire Danger Rating System to establish Preparedness Levels indices in each District.
- Completed Federal Excess Personal Property biannual inventory.
- Served on regional committee to review the Southern Fire Prevention and Wildland Urban Interface (WUI) Strategies.
- Provided \$238,000 in grant funds to Volunteer Fire Departments across the state.

## Unit Mission

*The mission of the Forest Resource Protection Unit is to reduce losses from wildfires and forest pests, and to prevent water quality degradation from forestry sources. The Forest Resource Protection Unit administers the Division's Wildland Fire Protection, Forest Health, and Water Quality programs.*



# Forest Resource Protection

## Forest Health

*Mission: Minimize forest resource losses caused by forest pests through effective prevention, detection, evaluation, suppression, and technical assistance measures.*

The Division is endeavoring to meet the constant challenges in the forest health arena. The difficulty of managing forest pests has been made more complicated by the ever-increasing number of native and non-native pests encroaching on Tennessee's forests. Coordination with other agencies and interest groups is becoming a critical part of the Division's response.

### Objectives for Year

- Detect, monitor, and manage forest pests.
- Implement the gypsy moth Cooperative Agricultural Pest Survey (CAPS) and Delimiting Work Plans for 2010.
- Implement the Hemlock Woolly Adelgid Strategic and Management Plan.
- Secure forest health support.

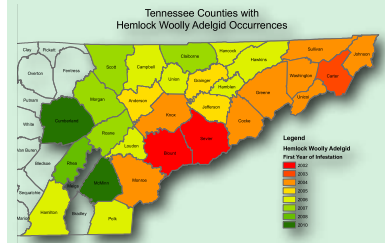
### Major accomplishments for July 1, 2009 – June 30, 2010

- Completed hemlock woolly adelgid surveys in East Tennessee. New county finds were McMinn and Cumberland Counties (see sidebar).
- Provided finances along with the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation and the Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency in hiring additional personnel at the University of Tennessee beneficial insects laboratory to increase production of biological control agents to reduce hemlock woolly adelgid populations on state lands.
- Conducted southern pine beetle (SPB) trapping in Chester, Marion, Rhea, and Wayne Counties where pine is a major component of several forest types. Surveys indicated low and stable SPB populations for this summer. Surveys for the entire southeast region of the country generally indicated the same for all the southern states.
- Completed the Early Detection and Rapid Response (EDRR) program for exotic bark beetles in Tennessee in cooperation with the US Forest Service and APHIS-PPQ. Seven sites across the state were selected for monitoring, which began in May 2009 and completed at the end of September 2009.
- Coordinated watershed sampling (stream baiting) of ten watersheds in East and Middle Tennessee for the pathogen that causes sudden oak death (SOD) with the University of Tennessee. This ongoing survey has thus far indicated no positive samples for SOD within the ten watersheds.
- Continued the 2010 emerald ash borer (EAB) national survey with traps set in 9 public and privately owned campgrounds in Middle Tennessee. This ongoing survey has thus far indicated no presence of EAB in these areas.
- Conducted gypsy moth egg mass surveys at two sites in Bledsoe County, one site in Roane County (Pattie Gap Road), one site in Johnson County (Shady Valley Community). Multiple egg masses, caterpillars and pupae were found at the Bledsoe and Roane County sites. Delimiting grids were created to determine the extent of the infestations in Bledsoe and Roane Counties for this year's trapping season.
- Currently monitoring the Johnson County gypsy moth infestation after spray treatments using pheromone flakes by the U.S. Forest Service of approximately 360 acres (260 federal, 100 non-industrial private). This monitoring effort requires approximately 200 delimiting traps.
- Currently managing the 2010 gypsy moth detection and delimiting survey programs involving over 12,000 traps in 95 counties.
- First discovery of beech scale, a combination of an exotic bark beetle and a canker-causing fungus it carries, was found in Beech Gap in Monroe County.

## Hemlock Woolly Adelgid Spreads West



First discovery of hemlock woolly adelgid in McMinn Co.



Map of Tennessee counties known to have HWA.



# Forest Resource Protection

## Water Quality

*Mission: Protect waters of Tennessee from degradation attributable to forestry practices.*

The Division of Forestry works to ensure that forestry practices are performed in a manner that does not result in the degradation of the State's water resources. The Water Quality program involves prevention, education, training, monitoring, response to complaints, and assistance to Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation (TDEC) Division of Water Pollution Control (WPC) with complaint resolution.

### Objectives for Year

- Increase courtesy checks and logger contacts.
- Provide Master Logger and Continuing Education Units (CEU) education with emphasis on stream crossings.

### Major accomplishments for July 1, 2009 – June 30, 2010

- Held 3 Best Management Practices (BMP) training sessions attended by 66 loggers in conjunction with the Tennessee Master Logger program.
- Conducted 1,181 contacts with landowners and loggers, providing technical assistance concerning application of BMP; 728 of these were courtesy checks were with loggers (see picture).
- Prepared 1,378 written BMP recommendations for forest landowners in forest management plans and timber sale assistance.
- Investigated 31 complaints arising from forestry operations in cooperation with the TDEC WPC.
- Investigated and made recommendations on 112 complaints from other sources.
- Assisted with 7 Notices of Violation and 1 Director's Order issued by TDEC WPC.
- Presented 3 BMP sessions in cooperation with the Tennessee Forestry Association (TFA) for the Tennessee Master Logger program, training 66 loggers.
- Provided Master Logger scholarship funding through the Tennessee Agricultural Enhancement Program, in partnership with the TFA, to train 352 loggers in BMP's.



Area Forester Chris Carney and Forest Technician Joe Bryson conduct courtesy check and give advice on water bar installation with logger in Cannon County.



# Forest Resource Management

## Forest Landowner Assistance

*Mission: Encourage and assist landowners to implement forest management practices that yield healthy, productive forests.*

The landowner assistance program provides technical assistance, forest planning assistance, cost-share assistance, forest health assessments and forestry information to private, non-industrial forest landowners. The Division assists landowners in achieving forest resource conservation and forest management objectives on their land.

### Objectives for Year

- Provide land use planners with resource management information.
- Distribute multi-resource plan writer for Stewardship and Tree Farm plans.
- Incorporate TDEC Threatened & Endangered database into forest management planning.
- Input all new Stewardship tracts and develop spatial database of all previous tracts.

### Major accomplishments for July 1, 2009 – June 30, 2010

- Provided 2,119 on the ground assists to landowners (1,357 were first time assists) (see picture).
  - ◊ Forest Management Planning
    - » Wrote 150 Forest Stewardship plans addressing 31,013 acres.
    - » Recognized implementation of 24 Forest Stewardship plans addressing 4,384 acres.
    - » Wrote 1,378 other forest management plans addressing 118,555 acres.
  - ◊ Forest Stand Prescription Planning
    - » Wrote 357 prescription plans addressing 18,363 acres.
  - ◊ Forest Stand Prescriptions Implemented
    - » Assisted 30 landowners in planting 385 acres of hardwoods.
    - » Assisted 103 landowners in planting 3,975 acres of pines.
    - » Assisted 90 landowners in forestry practices on 3,495 acres associated with the Department of Agriculture's Tennessee Agricultural Enhancement Program.
    - » Assisted 16 loggers with 15 temporary stream crossing structures and 188 wet area crossing structures through the Department of Agriculture's Tennessee Agricultural Enhancement Program.
- Input into the Plan Writer database contact information on 1,709 landowners who have received Stewardship Plans over the last 10 years and 758 tracts have been recorded in the GIS system from parcel maps, aerial photos and GPS data. All plans for the last 2 years have spatial data.
- Partnered with the American Forest Foundation to provide training for forestry consultants in the use of geographic information system and databases developed by the Division to write forest management plans. Held 3 training sessions with 36 consultants attending a one day class in database management and GIS.

## Unit Mission

*The mission of the Forest Resource Management Unit is to promote and advance sustainable forest management on non-industrial private forestlands for the multiple uses and benefits provided by forested landscapes. The Forest Resource Management Unit administers the Division's Landowner Assistance and Forest Legacy programs.*



Area foresters provide services and information to landowners to maintain the health and productivity of their forests. Active management leads to increased sustainability of forest products and non-timber benefits. Neglect often results in forests damaged by insects, fire, and disease.





# Forest Resource Management

## Forest Legacy

*Mission: Protect environmentally important, private forestlands threatened with conversion to non-forest uses.*

The Forest Legacy Program identifies and protects environmentally important private forestlands that are threatened by conversion to non-forest uses. Program emphasis is to maintain well-managed, working forests on the landscape. Since initial involvement in 2000, fee simple and permanent conservation easement purchases now total 39,726\* acres valued at \$38.4\* million. Tennessee utilized \$21\* million of federal Forest Legacy grant money in reaching that total.

\*These numbers have been revised from last year's report due to clarification in record keeping process.

### Objectives for Year

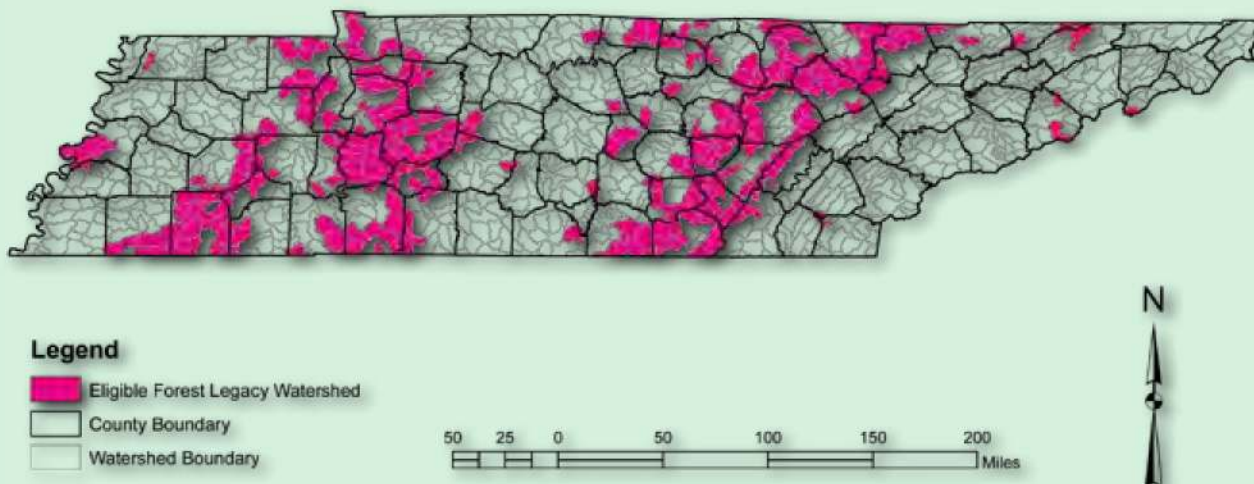
- Close active projects.
- Complete revision of assessment of needs.
- Finish baseline documentation on conservation easements.
- Promote/document Legacy program and projects.
- Identify tracts that meet State Forest objectives.

### Major accomplishments for July 1, 2009 – June 30, 2010

- Obtained funding for fee simple purchase of additional 2,146 acres valued at \$5.5 million for federal 2010 grant year consideration.
- Obtained federal Fiscal Year 2011 President's Request approval for funding a fee simple purchase of 1532 acres valued at \$4.0 million.
- Assessment of Need was revised and incorporated into the Tennessee Forest Resource Assessment and Strategy (see sidebar).

### Forest Legacy Assessment of Need (2014)

The Forest Legacy areas map displays watersheds that are heavily forested, face high levels of threat to development, and hold significant value in enhancing or maintaining aquatic resources. Aquatic resources considered include watersheds that either have public drinking water supply intakes, well established forested riparian habitats, or critical aquatic wildlife habitat. Individual watersheds could possess more than one aquatic resource. This approach to identifying FLP priority areas will address all the program objectives of Tennessee's FLP with added emphasis on enhancing and maintaining a clean public use water supply. Watersheds that contain previously purchased Forest Legacy properties are also included.







# Urban Forest Resource Management

Urban forestry emphasizes the important role trees play in communities: from the many intangible benefits to the economic benefits of air pollution abatement, heat island mitigation, and storm water runoff reduction. To attain these benefits, the urban forestry program strives to provide assistance to Tennessee's cities and towns, where the majority of the population lives. Urban Forestry impacts people where they live.

## Objectives for Year

- Improve the Department of Agriculture's Tennessee Agricultural Enhancement Program (TAEP) cost-share for community tree planting by implementing an inspection/follow up site visit.
- Provide urban and community forestry assistance to cities and towns across Tennessee and to green industries (arborists, grounds managers, landscape architects, others) that impact the management of the urban forest resources.
- Administer grants, Tree City USA, Tree Line USA, Tree Campus USA, Arbor Day poster contest, Champion Tree and related program and project administration.
- Complete a canopy cover analysis for Tennessee communities.
- Implement Interface Index as a natural resource planning tool.

## Major accomplishments for July 1, 2009 – June 30, 2010

- Completed a canopy cover assessment for Nashville (see sidebar).
- Completed 20 FY2010 Tennessee Agriculture Enhancement Program (TAEP) community tree planting grants. An estimated 2,705 trees were planted as part of 27 projects.
- Administered grants for TAEP community tree planting for FY2010 and the Urban and Community Forestry grants for FY2008 and FY2009.
- Completed a fifth panel of urban Forest Inventory and Analysis plots.
- Continued integration and implementation of Edison for TAEP and U&CF grant administration.
- Made 129 assists to 52 cities and towns; assists included providing information to tree boards, ordinance reviews, tree city information, planting recommendations, etc.
- Partnered with the Tennessee Urban Forestry Council to host a state urban forestry conference.
- Provided assistance to the Tennessee Urban Forestry Council as needed.
- Certified 1 new Tree Line USA, and re-certified 11 Tree Line USA's (Tennessee is second in the country in recognized Tree Line USA's).
- Recognized 39 cities and towns as Tree City USA.
- Certified Cleveland State Community College as Tennessee's first Tree Campus USA.
- Completed the State-wide Arbor Day Poster contest – 42 teachers and 1,287 students participated.

## Unit Mission

***The mission of the Urban Forest Resource Management Unit is to assist and encourage municipalities and private urban landowners to establish, improve, and maintain urban forest resources.***

## Davidson County Canopy Cover

Nashville/Davidson County canopy cover assessment indicated that 47% of the county was covered by trees.

Most of the canopy lies in the undeveloped region in the western part of the county.

Return on urban tree cover benefits are best captured in areas of greater development.





# State Forest Management

The Tennessee Department of Agriculture Division of Forestry manages 15 state forests totaling 167,302 acres based upon multiple-use and sustainable forest principals. The forests are quite varied, ranging from mountain coves to cedar glades to bottomlands along the Mississippi river.

## Objectives for Year

- Complete state forest inventory/analysis.
- Complete scheduled compartment plans.
- Achieve third party Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) forest management certification.
- Utilize state forests for demonstration of forest practices.
- Complete web based catalog of state forest demonstrations.
- Keep the State Forest Timber Sale Web page up-to-date.

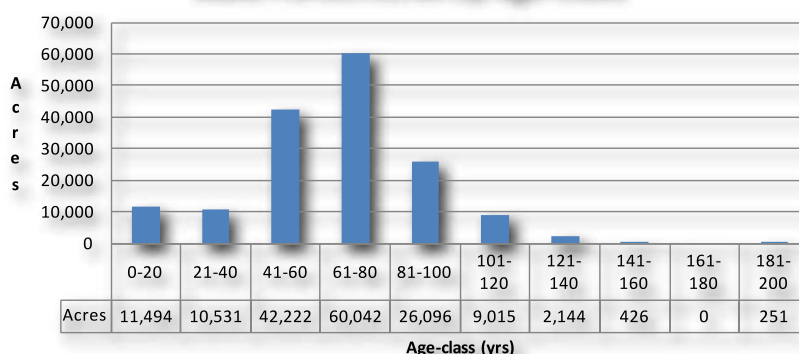
## Major accomplishments for July 1, 2009 – June 30, 2010

- Completed the forest inventory field data collection for all plots on all forests.
- Twelve State Forest forest inventory analysis summaries have been completed to-date; data for the remaining three forest summaries are being summarized. Summaries to be completed in early August (see chart).
- 12 compartment plans were submitted for approval; 5 were approved by the end of the reporting period.
- Completed FSC forest management and chain of custody recertification initial assessment. Remedies to a corrective action request (CAR) were completed. Contract for completing the CAR verification audit is pending approval.
- Completed the forest harvest method demonstration installation implemented in conjunction with the University of Tennessee. These demonstration/study areas are located on Chickasaw, Standing Stone and Prentice Cooper State Forests.
- Completed the web based state forest demonstration catalog information data collection and summarization. We are in the process of re-designing the state forest web page and the catalog will be included and posted when the re-design is completed.
- Completed a major easement request for a power line right-of-way associated with a new prison project at Bledsoe State Forest.
- Put up for sealed bid an unprecedented 27 timber sales with 24 actually being sold. Revenue from these sales totaled \$2,580,308.38 from 902 acres.

## Unit Mission

***The mission of the State Forest Management Unit is to provide for the multiple use management of all resources on State Forest lands such that those resources are protected and utilized in the combination that best meets the long-term needs of the people of Tennessee.***

**State Forest Acres by Age-Class**



The forest age distribution across the 15 State Forests is skewed to the older age-classes. Only about 11,494 acres (6.8%) of the entire State Forest system is in early succession (less than 20 years of age), whereas nearly 98,000 acres (60.4%) are in age-classes at or above rotation age (60 years for pine, 80 years for hardwood).



# Reforestation

## Seedling Nursery

*Mission: To provide high quality conifer and hardwood seedlings to the state's landowners at a competitive price.*

The Division of Forestry's seedling nursery, located in Delano, TN, produces forest seedlings that are available for sale to landowners in Tennessee. These seedlings are adapted to growing conditions found in Tennessee and are used primarily for reforestation and forest conservation projects. Approximately one-half of the 80 acres available for seedling production at the nursery are used for this purpose each year. The remaining seedbed area is planted in cover crops each year to ensure the long-term productivity of the nursery soil.

### Objectives for Year

- Increase seedling sales and accompanying sales revenue by 25% over FY2009 levels.
- Complete and refine new web-based nursery management/seedling sales software.
- Facilitate planning for new seedling cold storage building at Chickasaw SF.

### Major accomplishments for July 1, 2009 – June 30, 2010

- Increased revenue from seedling sales by 22%.
- Signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency to produce 203,000 hardwood seedlings for their use at various locations in the state.
- Produced 4.4 million pine seedlings and 1.3 million hardwood seedlings for sale and distribution during the 2009-2010 field planting season (see sidebar).
- Continued to refine and develop the new web-based seedling sales computer program. Changes were made to reflect the new organizational structure of the Division of Forestry and additional improvements were made to several reports.
- Replaced the aging shingle roof with a new metal roof on the nursery office building in Delano with assistance from East Tennessee District and Cumberland District personnel. Also restained the siding of the nursery office.
- Attained a customer satisfaction rating of greater than 90%, based on responses from our customer survey.

## Unit Mission

*The mission of the Reforestation Unit is to provide quality, affordable seedlings (genetically improved where feasible) to Tennessee landowners and to optimize genetic improvements to increase the productivity of the state's forest resource.*

## Planting Seedlings in Riparian Zones

Planting trees in riparian zones offers several benefits including protecting water quality and attracting wildlife. Many of the species grown at the Division's nursery are well suited for planting in riparian zones.

Inspection of tree plantings by division personnel are routinely done to ensure proper planting and survival of seedlings. This reforestation planting of a field that borders a stream in Cannon County is monitored for health and survival. Trees were

planted in 2008 and included baldcypress, green ash, swamp chestnut oak, water oak, and willow oak.





# Reforestation

## Tree Improvement

*Mission: To genetically improve the forest plantations of Tennessee through a program of breeding, testing, selection, and orchard management for important tree species; and to provide the state nursery with genetically improved seed from these orchards.*

The Division manages over 200 acres of seed orchards and more than 214 acres of progeny tests at various locations around the state. Currently, the Division is actively working with 7 hardwood and 4 conifer tree species. Tennessee is also a member of the North Carolina State University – Cooperative Tree Improvement Program. Membership allows accelerated breeding and establishment of genetically superior seed orchards. Seed produced from these orchards is used to grow seedlings tailored for survival and fast growth on Tennessee's landscape.

### Objectives for Year

- Continue development of Barclay tract into new West Tennessee Tree Improvement Center.
- Continue to refine preliminary work plan for new West Tennessee Tree Improvement Center.
- Facilitate in-house production of 2nd generation loblolly pine seed and Elite Sawtimber seed source.
- Develop succession plan for critical tree improvement positions.
- Raise seedlings and graft all scion material needed for various orchards around the state. Top priority will be on material needed for installation of new orchards at the West Tennessee Tree Improvement Center.

### Major accomplishments for July 1, 2009 – June 30, 2010

- Harvested over 2,000 bushels of loblolly pine cones from three seed orchards at the Pinson Reforestation Complex which yielded 2,485 pounds of improved seed. The 2nd generation orchard and the 3rd cycle orchard were harvested for the first time.
- Harvested 640 bushels of white pine cones from seed orchards at the East Tennessee Nursery, Lone Mountain State Forest and Scott State Forest which yielded 314 pounds of seed.
- Harvested 4,400 pounds of improved yellow-poplar seed from the orchard at Ames Plantation.
- Harvested improved black walnut seed and saw tooth oak acorns from seed orchards at the East Tennessee Nursery and the Pinson Reforestation Complex.
- Cleared brush from over 90% of the non-wooded area at the West Tennessee Tree Improvement Center. Planted seedlings to begin establishment of a shortleaf pine and a black walnut seed orchard on the property. Also planted a loblolly pine progeny test (see picture). Transferred the previous owner's CRP contract to the state. Converted proposed land use map to fGIS format and identified locations for future construction of buildings.
- Planted all trees scheduled for establishment in the 3rd cycle loblolly pine orchard at the Pinson Reforestation Complex.
- Produced containerized seedlings to establish loblolly pine progeny tests and add to the shortleaf pine and black walnut seed orchards at the new West Tennessee Tree Improvement Center.
- Grafted all loblolly, shortleaf and white pine scion material needed to produce trees for various seed orchards.
- Fertilized all seed orchards in need of fertilization based on recommendations from North Carolina State University.



Loblolly pine seedling planted for progeny test at new West Tennessee Tree Improvement Center





## Forest Data and Technology

The Forest Data and Technology Unit is charged with the task of seeking out and implementing relevant technology. The Unit is also responsible for maintaining relevant databases and presenting data in a format for further analysis. Critical work areas include updating information systems and getting new mapping and remote sensing technology into the hands of field personnel. Adopting such technology will lead to better communications, increased efficiency, and strengthened credibility.

### Objectives for Year

- Implement web-based online burn permit system.
- Re-design and implement water quality database.
- Develop Insect and Disease Occurrence Database.
- Purchase Microwave Paths for 11 critical links.

### Major accomplishments for July 1, 2009 – June 30, 2010

- Purchased 110 UHF vehicle repeaters.
- Purchased 16 tower repeaters.
- Activated 100 + wireless internet access cards for field personnel.
- Developed Online Photo Directory for TDF staff.
- Developed Disconnected MS Access Database for collecting field information.

### **Unit Mission**

*The mission of the Forest Data and Technology Unit is to facilitate the development and utilization of technology to meet the needs of the Division's core businesses. The Forest Data and Technology Unit has the responsibility to implement state of the art technology, manage and compile data, and administer the Division's Forest Inventory and Analysis, and Geographic Information Systems programs.*



# Forest Data and Technology

## Geographic Information Systems

Mission: Analyze and present tabular information in visual (map) form or extract data from imagery and present it in tabular form that assists in making resource decisions.

The Geographic Information Systems (GIS) section supports program managers decision making by analyzing data and presenting it in map or tabular form.

### Objectives for Year

- Support Division projects - Gypsy Moth, Hemlock Woolly Adelgid, Sudden Oak Death, Emerald Ash Borer, Forest Legacy, Statewide Forest Resource Assessment, Water Quality, Urban Forestry.
- Direct and conduct training of seasonal personnel in the use of new GPS technology.

### Major accomplishments for July 1, 2009 – June 30, 2010

#### Gypsy Moth

- Managed the property inventory of global positioning system (GPS) units issued annually to the seasonal and full-time employees, and laptop computers issued annually to the lead trappers used in gypsy moth trapping.
- Conducted technology training and refresher training of 38 full-time and 6 seasonal employees in the use of GPS units and/or laptop computers and downloading software in the execution of the gypsy moth trapping program.
- Downloaded GPS waypoint (trap placement) data from 23 full-time employees .
- Provided support to lead trappers for assigned GPS units, laptop computers and associated software used in gypsy moth trapping.
- Received and processed 218 GPS data downloads from full-time employees and seasonal employees.
- Collected, imported, converted, inspected, modified, corrected, organized and archived more than 13,290 trap placement data records from field employees in the produce maps.
- Produced small scale delimiting grid maps for gypsy moth trap placement.
- Produced large scale (statewide) gypsy moth trap placement maps.
- Produced large scale (statewide and district) gypsy moth catch location maps.
- Produced small scale maps of gypsy moth proposed and final eradication and control projects.
- Produced maps illustrating the current statewide status of gypsy moth occurrences and infestations over the past year.
- Produced maps illustrating the spread of gypsy moth regionally over the past year.

#### Hemlock Woolly Adelgid

- Produced pest occurrence and spread maps from current field survey data.
- Conducted analysis towards identifying eastern hemlock occurrence using color-infrared aerial imagery.

#### Sudden Oak Death

- Produced pest occurrence maps from field survey data.

#### Forest Legacy

- Produced map of various Forest Legacy projects.
- Produced maps for boundary survey bid requests.

#### State Assessment Project

- Produced watershed maps for use in this project.
- Aided in training of personnel in efficient use of GIS software.

#### Water Quality

- Produced quarterly maps of water quality courtesy visits.



## Forest Data and Technology

### Forest Inventory Analysis

*Mission: Characterize changes in Tennessee's forest resource through data collection and analysis*

The Division works with the USDA Forest Service to produce periodic reports of the condition and extent of Tennessee's forest. Some 4,600 plots statewide are accurately measured at regular intervals to provide the data needed, with 20% of the plots scheduled for measurement each year. Information from this data is used to qualify and quantify Tennessee's forest resource.

#### Objectives for Year

- Measure 924 plots.
- Train and certify crews.

#### Major accomplishments for July 1, 2009 – June 30, 2010

- Measured 920 Forest Inventory plots.
- Measured 57 Forest Health Monitoring plots.
- Measured 54 Urban Forest Health Monitoring plots.
- Measured 40 Ozone Monitoring plots.
- Trained 7 Foresters for updates on data acquisition system.
- Trained 1 Forester at the Tennessee-Kentucky Wildland Fire Academy.

### Radio Communications

#### Objectives for Year

- Begin narrow band conversion for all Districts.
- Secure funding and contract for critical microwave paths.
- Implement quarterly inspection of all radio sites.
- Establish agreements and attend monthly meetings with Tennessee Valley Regional System in Chattanooga.

#### Major accomplishments for July 1, 2009 – June 30, 2010

- Hired Radio Technician for East TN District.
- Installed vehicle repeaters in East TN & Cumberland District.
- Moved Lantana Repeater site to Pevine.
- Replaced Antenna and line at English Mt., Standing Stone, Short Mt. & Macey Hill repeater sites.
- Replaced Antenna and line at Sharps Ridge and Knoxville Office sites.



## Forest Business

The goal of the Forest Businesses Unit is to improve Tennessee's forest resources by facilitating linkages between sellers and buyers and promoting value-adding industry. The Division's Forest Businesses program provides descriptive data about, and for, the forest products industry in Tennessee, technical assistance to forest products businesses or forest landowners, assistance in recruiting or establishment of forest products businesses in the state, and analysis to aid understanding of the forest resource.

### Objectives for Year

- Publish the Forest Products Bulletin quarterly and the Forest Industry Directory.
- Provide export marketing help for hardwood lumber producers.
- Assist Tennessee companies and citizens with forest products advice.
- Assist with the Biomass Crop Assistance Program (BCAP) in Tennessee.

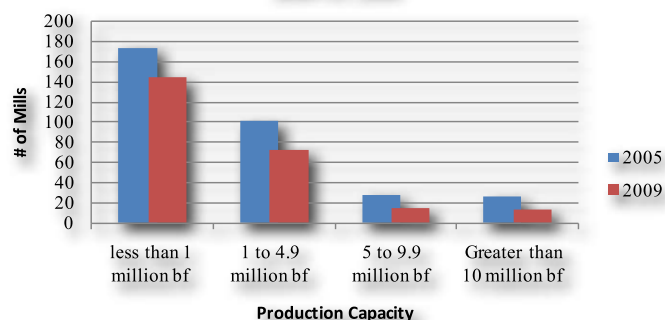
### Accomplishments for July 1, 2009 – June 30, 2010

- Completed the 2009 Tennessee Industry Survey of all Primary facilities in the state through a coordinated effort of forestry field personnel (see chart).
- Published the 2009 Tennessee Industry Directory.
- Published the Tennessee Forest Products Bulletin Quarterly.
- Participated in Hardwood States Export Group (HSEG) to maximize our export help through the group's efforts and attendance at hardwood lumber export trade shows; attended the Vietnamwood show.
- Recruited four Tennessee companies to participate in the Vietnamwood 2009 Trade show.
- Wrote plain language instructions for and assisted forest industry participants with the Biomass Crop Assistance Program.
- Wrote the Forest Industry in Tennessee Certification Survey for the Tennessee Forestry Association.
- Advised Tennessee citizens with their forest products questions and needs for help with timber sales, logging, forest inventory and other inquiries.
- Participated as a member of the Southern Group of State Foresters Utilization and Marketing Task Force and Marketing Publication committee.
- Authored "Status of the Forest Industry in Tennessee" for Tennessee Forestry Association, and assisted with the TFA President's SAF presentation.

### Unit Mission

*The mission of the Forest Business Unit is to provide support for the Tennessee forest industry and forest-based businesses, and to provide data to characterize Tennessee forest products.*

**Hardwood Sawmills in TN by Size  
2005 vs. 2009**



The forest products industry in Tennessee has been hit hard by the very poor US housing market the past few years. This reduction in mills affects all associated with forestry in the state - from landowners to the secondary processors of our hardwood lumber.





## Environmental Affairs and Public Outreach

The Environmental Affairs and Public Outreach Unit seeks creative ways to provide outreach to the various publics in the State of Tennessee. Additionally, the unit seeks to foster greater collaboration with environmental advocacy groups to produce a climate for problem solving which will help reduce unnecessary conflict in various arenas with favorable outcomes for all.

### Objectives for Year

- Initiate/Develop strategy for work needed on emerging issues.
- Engage and inform environmental/conservation organizations on Division activities.
- Develop and implement training for staff on land use planning.

### Major accomplishments for July 1, 2009 – June 30, 2010

- Participated in cooperative planning efforts with environmental/conservation organizations including Sustainable Tennessee, Parks and Greenways Foundation, National Network of Forest Practitioners, and The Nature Conservancy.
- Facilitated group discussions on emerging forestry issues to Division personnel.
- Conducted workshop on conservation issues to limited resource/underserved landowner groups.
- Maintained partnership with Tennessee State University's extension program to underserved landowners.
- Presented "Realizing the economic value of forested landscape in a viewshed" paper at Emerging Issues 3: Along Urban-Rural Interfaces conference in Atlanta.
- Initiated land use planning role strategy implementation to select Division personnel. This initiative aims to position our professional staff whose areas are densely populated to become more involved in county and local land use decision making.

### **Unit Mission**

*The mission of the Environmental Affairs & Public Outreach Unit is to communicate clearly and accurately to the Division's publics forestry information necessary to accomplish the Division's mission, and to optimize in-house communications. The Environmental Affairs & Public Outreach Unit also administers the Division's Information and Education program.*



# Environmental Affairs and Public Outreach

## Information and Education

*Mission: To produce educational materials and provide forest resource information through a variety of media, and provide support to all Division programs in the dissemination of information to our publics.*

The information and education program is essential in helping the general public understand forestry as a discipline and the role that the Division plays in maintaining a healthy forest resource while providing a stream of essential ecological benefits to society. The program also helps to foster communication within the Division, a critical function of a healthy organization.

### Objectives for Year

- Raise awareness about important and timely forest resource issues.
- Utilize technological capacity to produce informational products in-house to more effectively and efficiently raise awareness of division activity and program diversity.
- Inform division personnel on statewide division activity and current forest resource issues.
- Promote Forestry Camp.

### Major accomplishments for July 1, 2009 – June 30, 2010

- Held 3,274 educational outreach activities reaching over 307,169 children and adults. This represents a 120% increase in the number of activities and a 50% increase in the number of children and adults reached over last year. The increases were the result of greater fire prevention efforts.
- Produced 12 news releases pertaining to relevant topics including: wildfire prevention, urban forestry grants, forest stewardship plan, employee awards, Arbor Day, woods arson arrests.
- Gave radio and television interviews addressing Division programs.
- Referenced in 528 newspaper articles.
- Produced 2 newsletters for Division personnel.
- Maintained fire prevention website – BurnSafeTN.org. The site had 433,248 hits.
- Facilitated 61st annual Forest Camp for 48 Future Farmers of America high school students.
- Produced 3 informational print products (Core Business brochure, Tennessee Tree Line USA Handbook, and Cooperating Consultant Forester Program directory) and 1 book (Tennessee Forest Resource Assessment and Strategy) (see pictures). The informational print products utilized the marketing strategy created in FY2009 to better raise awareness of Division activity and program diversity. The strategy seeks to more effectively establish a consistent, branded style necessary to maintain a recognizable public image.
- Maintained YouTube channel – [www.YouTube.com/TNDivForestry](http://www.YouTube.com/TNDivForestry) - showcasing Division stock video and playlists of other organization's or individual's conservation education oriented video for global internet audience. The channel had 2,930 video views. The most viewed video was "Using Handtools to Suppress Tennessee Forest Fires". It was added December 2009 and represented 28% of total views.



Print products produced in-house included the Division's Core Business brochure, Tennessee Tree Line USA Handbook, Cooperating Consultant Forester Program directory, and the Tennessee Forest Resource Assessment and Strategy



## Safety and Training

The Division stresses safety first in all activities and program areas by providing the tools and training necessary to enable employees to work effectively and safely. In addition, physical fitness standards help the Division maintain a physically capable and healthier work force.

### Objectives for Year

- Conduct work capacity test.
- Coordinate ongoing training program.
- Maintain training database.
- Assess training needs for each job classification.
- Maintain safety records.
- Coordinate safety inspections of facilities.
- Provide safety information (updates, messages).
- Investigate accidents/unsafe work practices.
- Administer Title VI Program.

### Major accomplishments for July 1, 2009 – June 30, 2010

- Administered the work capacity test to assess fitness among Division firefighters (see picture).
- Conducted the Division's annual wildfire training academy for new employees.
- Facilitated Forest Management Training for National Resource Conservation Service (NRCS) staff.
- Made materials available for the Division's annual wildfire safety refresher.
- Implemented new web-based training database (IQSweb).
- Coordinated fire prevention training for foresters and forest technicians.
- Facilitated National Incident Management System (NIMS) Training.
- Participated in the eighth annual Tennessee Kentucky Wildland Fire Academy, which offers advanced wildfire training for Division firefighters (see picture).
- Trained firefighters in the use of fire operations in the wildland-urban interface.
- Assisted with Insect and Disease Training for employees.
- Conducted Citation (Badge) Training for employees.
- Coordinated First Aid/CPR Training.
- Coordinated Defensive Driving Training.
- Administered the Division's Title VI Program.
- Maintained the Division's Pesticide Certification Program/Records.
- Compiled and submitted OSHA reports.
- Chaired Safety/Training Committee meetings.

### Unit Mission

*The mission of the Safety and Training Program is to protect the lives and well-being of Division employees and the public by reducing or eliminating unsafe acts and/or conditions that may result in personal injury or loss of life and to coordinate training opportunities that will enhance employee career development and the delivery of forestry services to our constituents.*



Division firefighters take work capacity test.



Prescribed burn training at Tennessee Kentucky Wildland Fire Academy





# Administration

Spread across the State and administered from four district and one reforestation offices, the 325 employees of Department of Agriculture's Forestry Division have responsibilities in nine separate programs. Effective planning, priority setting, and communication within the Division are crucial to organizational effectiveness. Assistant State Foresters and the Budget & Planning Unit Leader work with Staff to refine systems that improve customer services and operational efficiencies.

## Objectives for Year

- Sell excess properties to generate funds for new facilities
- Purchase priority facilities
- Monitor and manage spending processes
- Develop Tennessee Resource Assessment and Strategy
- Conduct Annual Work Planning process

## Major accomplishments for July 1, 2009 – June 30, 2010

- Reverted three fire tower properties to appropriate owners.
- Completed the process of purchasing property in Chester County for new Reforestation headquarters and seed orchards.
- Completed the process of purchasing property in Bradley County for forestry work center.
- Placed five real estate properties on the market at the respective appraised values:
 

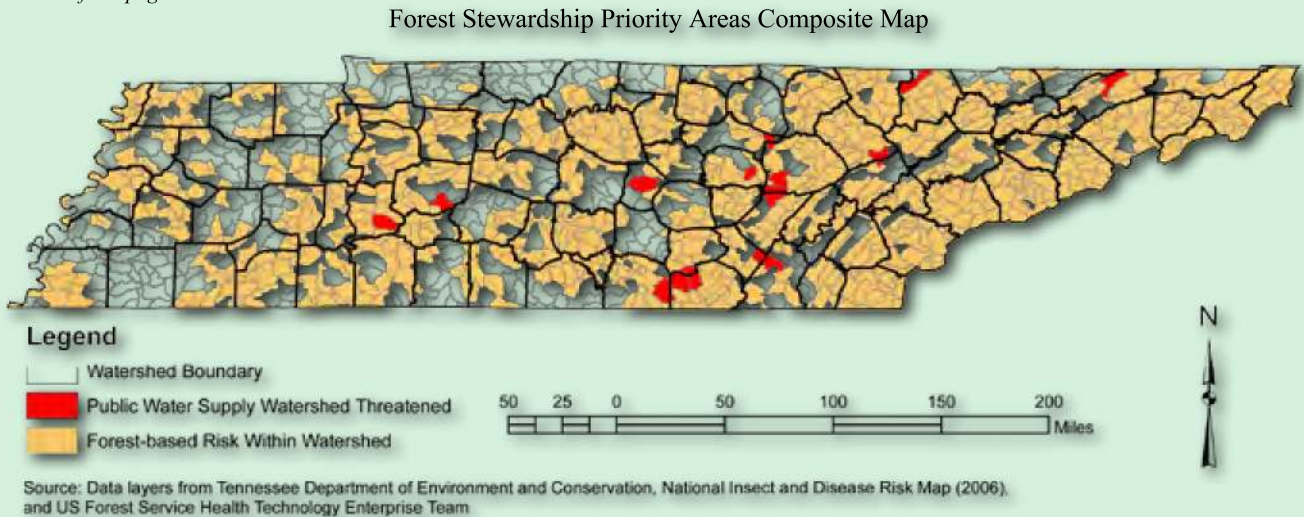
Flagpole residence and two acres in Williamson County.....	\$ 85,000
Cross Plains Fire Tower property in Robertson County.....	\$ 49,000
Nolensville unimproved tower site in Williamson County.....	\$ 8,000
Abandoned District Headquarters office in Chattanooga.....	\$710,000
Abandoned building and 8.5 acres in Cookeville.....	\$800,000
Total	\$1,651,000
- Sold the Flagpole property in Williamson County for \$75,000.
- Completed Tennessee Forest Resource Assessment and Strategy.
- Developed annual work plan and monitored Performance Measures.
- Applied for and obtained \$3.45 million in federal grants for forestry programs through US Forest Service's State & Private Forestry section.

## Unit Mission

*The mission of the Administration Unit is to assist the State Forester in increasing the effectiveness of management, the quality of customer services, the efficiency of operations, and the cost effectiveness of Division programs.*



...continued from page 1



forest health risks, in need of riparian forest buffers, or in need of protection of a public water supply watershed. These watersheds will be the focus of outreach to advance stewardship activities geared toward mitigating the threats or issues identified. The highest priority displayed on this map is the public water supply watersheds, which are shown in red. These watersheds are greater than 50 percent forested, face significant threat to development and provide most of the public water supply for at least one water intake. Therefore, they depend upon a healthy forest condition for quality water yield. For this reason they will be the focus of active outreach for stewardship planning and application of measures to sustain their yield of quality water.

### ***Forestry Commission Duties and Functions***

The Tennessee Forestry Commission was established by the legislature under T.C.A. 11-4-201 to:

1. Nominate candidates for State Forester.
2. Review, approve and submit the annual budget of the Forestry Division to the Commissioner of Agriculture.
3. Make an annual report to the Governor, Commissioner of the Department of Agriculture and the Senate Environment, Conservation and Tourism Committee and the House Conservation and Environment Committee.
4. Recommend to the General Assembly legislation to protect, conserve and develop the forest resources of the state.
5. Approve the Division's comprehensive long-range plan for the state's forest resources.
6. Establish state forestry policies that will enable the Division to manage its programs.
7. Include in budget recommendations those goals and objectives necessary to implement state forestry policies.

### **The State of Tennessee policy of non-discrimination**

Pursuant to the State of Tennessee's policy of non-discrimination, the Tennessee Department of Agriculture does not discriminate on the basis of race, sex, religion, color, national or ethnic origin, age, disability or military service in its policies or in the admission or access to treatment or employment in its programs, services, or activities.

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